

**City on a Hill**  
**(Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)**

**Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 July 2024**

**Scottish Charity Number: SC051540**

**City on a Hill**

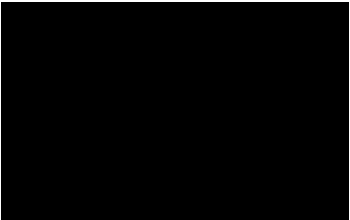
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**City on a Hill**

**Legal and administrative information**

**Charity Name** City on a Hill

**Registered Charity Number** SC051540

**Trustees** 

**Registered Address** The Diadem  
537-539  
Edinburgh  
EH11 3AR

**Independent Auditor** MHA  
Chartered Accountants  
6 St Colme Street  
Edinburgh  
EH3 6AD

**Bankers** Virgin Money  
83 George Street  
Edinburgh  
EH2 3ES

## City on a Hill

### Trustee's Report

For the year ended 31 July 2024

## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

City on a Hill is a church. It is a Scottish Incorporated Charitable Organisation (SCIO) which operates within the parameters of the "Constitution of City on a Hill". City on a Hill has a 2-tier structure with Trustees and Members. The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that strong governance is in place (with the day-to-day outworking being delegated to staff). The Trustees have been identified as well-respected individuals within the Church congregation and appointed on the basis of their character and professional expertise. Further specific requirements for an individual being appointed as a Trustee can be found in paragraph 29 of the Constitution. Across the Trustee board there is a range of professional experience.

The Members are Elders of the Church and are responsible for appointing and removing Trustees (both by a resolution agreed to by 75% of Members entitled to vote on the appointment – a resolution to appoint a Member to the Trustee Board must be taken by the other Members precluding from the vote the individual concerned). Members are also required to give their consent – in parallel to Trustees – on a number of Reserved Matters including purchase, sale or lease of property, approval of the annual budget, and appointment of a new Lead Pastor – a full list of Reserved Matters can be found in Appendix B of our Constitution.

The Church's strategic plan is set by a Strategic Team (made up predominantly of staff members) in consultation with the Members and Trustees. The Strategic Team and staff management are responsible for the ongoing operations of City on a Hill. These teams report to Trustee Meetings (approximately 8 times per year) and Member Meetings (approximately 5 times per year) on matters relevant to each body.

A salary structure has been established with a bracket for each different staff role. These brackets were created following comparisons with four other similar sized Scottish churches. The process of setting and reviewing brackets and individual salaries within each bracket is detailed in the "City on a Hill – salary brackets and salary level setting" document which includes mitigations against conflicts of interest on the part of key management who are also Trustees and/or Members of the City on a Hill SCIO. During the year to July 2024, the following individuals held key management roles:

- [REDACTED] – Lead Pastor; SCIO Member; Trustee
- [REDACTED] Executive Pastor; SCIO Member; Management Team (all roles to 31/1/25)
- [REDACTED] – Head of Pastoral Care and Discipleship; SCIO Member; Management Team
- [REDACTED] – Finance and Administration Manager; Management Team
- [REDACTED] – Management Team

### Recruitment and induction of new Trustees

The process of inducting new Trustees includes an introduction to the 2-tier SCIO structure and an explanation of the responsibilities of Trustees within the context of City on a Hill. There is also the opportunity for them to discuss the experience of being a Trustee with an existing member of the Board. Required reading for new Trustees includes OSCR's "Guidance and good practice for charity trustees", "Charity Trustee Handout" and "Safeguarding guidance" documents. The new Trustee must also familiarise themselves with City on a Hill's safeguarding policy, undergo Trustee-specific safeguarding training, and complete a satisfactory Disclosure check.

## **City on a Hill**

### **Trustee's Report**

**For the year ended 31 July 2024**

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The Church's purpose, as stated in the Constitution, is the advancement of religion, as expressed by the Christian faith, for the public benefit through:

- The worship of God.
- The discipling of people of all ages.
- Mission and outreach in the communities in which the Church works.
- Education in the Christian faith.
- The prevention and relief of poverty.

To this end, the Church runs regular "Community Gatherings" (Sunday services) in six "Communities" in and around Edinburgh:

- City Centre
- Leith (northeast Edinburgh)
- Musselburgh (East Lothian)
- North (Granton)
- South (nr Penicuik, Midlothian)
- West (Stenhouse/Chesser)

Each Community meets weekly with the exception of once a month when all Communities come together for "The Gathering". This is part of reinforcing and retaining our identity as "One Church in Many Communities".

We also have an "Online Community" with a weekly broadcast for those unable to meet in person – or who simply prefer to engage with church remotely. Each Gathering (both in person and online) includes times of worship and Bible teaching as well as age-appropriate groups for children – with monthly exceptions when we seek to ensure the content of the main Gathering is engaging and appropriate for all ages. We also run activities on weekday evenings for secondary school aged young people. Also, outwith Sunday Gatherings, "Small Groups" meet in the homes, public venues and online for Bible study, prayer and mutual pastoral support. As we head into the next year, we are beginning to look at ways in which each of our Communities can make an increasingly positive impact in the geographical area and neighbourhoods around where they gather on a Sunday – and how the Online Community can have a similar impact (albeit not geographically focused).

We are privileged to partner with many other churches and organisations locally, nationally and internationally through financial contributions, volunteer manpower, shared wisdom and joint endeavours. These partnerships include those formed through the Go Global Family of churches, the United in Prayer initiative and other informal relationships, and seek to reach more people with the gospel and bring glory to God.

We celebrate the fact that involvement as volunteer leaders or team members is a key factor in individuals' personal growth – in their personal faith, character and life skills such as teamwork and leadership.

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

City on a Hill continued to "strengthen and establish" this year – in terms of both activities and infrastructure. Our weekly in-person Community Gatherings across 6 physical Communities were regularly attended by around 400 people from a wide range of ages and nationalities, whilst our Online Community continued to reach people in Edinburgh and further afield for whom a physical church service is not practical or preferable.

## **City on a Hill**

### **Trustee's Report**

**For the year ended 31 July 2024**

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)**

Our monthly altogether event – “The Gathering” – relocated to the O2 Academy in the west of the city. We are very appreciative of all the venues that have accommodated our Gatherings and other activities this year.

Kids’ ministry at City on a Hill runs for children aged 1 year up until they finish primary school. It is wonderful to see spiritual growth in children of all ages as they develop their own personal relationships with Jesus.

In the younger age groups up to primary 2 (“Playhouse” and “Treehouse”) there is a focus on Bible stories. We started the new academic year with a series on Trusting God, looking at key Old Testament characters. Leading up to Christmas, we took several weeks to look at the Christmas Story in detail. January began with a series called “God Wants Me” looking at children and young people in the Bible. We then did the Easter Story and tied it in with City on a Hill’s purpose: “Loving God, Loving Others and “Making Disciples.” A series entitled “Be as Amazing as God Made You” used a touchy-feely book to look at the idea of purpose, whilst a series on Parables focussed on “Hearing and Doing” the word of God. Finally, during a series on outreach, the children made crafts which they could use to outreach into their communities – one parent and child have already come to the Church as a result!

In the older age groups (“Lighthouse” and “Powerhouse”) we aim to equip the children with Bible knowledge and skills, and to live for God in daily life. We started the new school year with a series on “Keys to Success” from the life of David and then went into looking at the “I AM” statements of Jesus. From January to Easter, we spent time doing an overview of the Old Testament. We then looked at one of our core values “We are a Word and Spirit Church” and had a great time in the Summer doing an Escape Room series looking at “Great Bible Escapes”.

Under the banner C.R.E.W. (Christians Ready Equipped and Willing), our Youth activities have gained considerable strength over the past year. We are committed to nurturing the faith journeys of our young people and provide opportunities for them to connect, learn and grow in a supportive environment.

Our Friday Night Youth program continues to flourish, providing a welcoming space for secondary school-aged youth to connect and explore their faith through engaging discussions and fun activities. Throughout the year, we hosted a variety of gatherings that encourage young people to grow in their personal beliefs while inviting their friends to explore faith alongside them. We launched a Bible study on Zoom that has garnered a consistent turnout of around a dozen participants every Wednesday night. Several City on a Hill Communities have been running Youth on Sunday mornings alongside the existing adult and children’s programs, and we are pleased to see these groups gaining momentum.

In July, we participated once again in the annual youth camp “Magnitude”, which saw the enthusiastic participation of 38 young individuals from our Church supported by a dedicated team of 10 volunteers. This dynamic event, attended by numerous Christian youth groups from across Scotland, proved to be a transformative experience for many. The camp provided invaluable opportunities for our youth to deepen their faith and strengthen relationships through a range of seminars and activities led by the Magnitude team.

## City on a Hill

### Trustee's Report

For the year ended 31 July 2024

#### ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

It was a privilege to welcome both new and returning students to the city and City on a Hill. It was amazing to see such a great number of students and young adults joining us in our weekly Small Groups across Edinburgh and the monthly "Hangouts" which served as an opportunity to grow in our relationships with each other and God. The "Authentic Weekend Away" was such a key moment in the "Authentic" calendar as many people were filled with the Holy Spirit, deepened their relationship with God and went to a new level in their faith. All these activities enabled everyone to get involved in a form of leading or serving and allowed for new friendships to be made.

Volunteers from City on a Hill served twice a month with Bethany Christian Trust's "Welcome Centre" from October to April, each time providing an evening meal for 30-50 adults experiencing homelessness. City on a Hill raised awareness and funds for the Edinburgh City Mission Christmas Hamper Appeal supporting asylum seekers and refugees. The focus of this campaign was to provide Christmas hampers to "New Scots". In 2024, we launched two new initiatives. The Leith Community started "Street Impact", a ministry serving people begging in Edinburgh by building relationship, offering prayer and providing food and a warm drink. The team goes out once or twice a week and have seen two people respond to the Gospel. The North community partnered with Edinburgh City Mission and Granton Baptist Church to start a "Kids Matter" parenting programme for parents in North Edinburgh. The course is designed especially for families facing economic deprivation. It ran for 7 weeks and parents fed back the positive impact this made on their relationship with their children.

Notable moments in the Church programme were visiting preacher [REDACTED] from The Tab Church London at "The Gathering" in November, and "Holy Spirit Nights" including one led by well-known Christian writer [REDACTED] and another by [REDACTED], Pastor of Brooklyn Tabernacle. In December, each of our 7 Communities (including Church Online) hosted a pair of gatherings designed as ideal opportunities for people to invite friends and family: a Carol Service and a Christmas Family Gathering – the latter taking a time-travel theme as all ages delved together into the Old Testament prophecies pointing to the first Christmas. Other highlights included Good Friday and Easter Sunday, a week of Prayer and Fasting at the start of the academic year and the calendar year, workshops on Relationships and on Spiritual Gifts, Small Group Leader training to equip new leaders to host Bible studies and provide pastoral support to their group members, and a Mission Trip to outreach with Centrum Ewangelii Church in Głogów, Poland.

Our staff team grew with the addition of a Worship Team Overseer to support this vital ministry across all our Communities. And our Youth ministry was blessed by the recruitment of highly experienced new Youth Pastor.

At the end of April, we launched fundraising campaigns to raise:

- £220,000 towards the purchase of "The Diadem" from the Church of Scotland
- £20,500 to underwrite the first year of a part-time Community Pastor salary for our South Community
- £20,500 to underwrite the first year of a part-time Community Pastor salary for our Musselburgh Community

By the end of July, we had managed to raise more than half of the sum for the Diadem Building Project together with approximately one third and two thirds respectively of the Musselburgh and South Community Pastor targets.

We hugely appreciate the contribution of our volunteers, donors and staff – without whom none of the work of City on a Hill would be possible. But above all, we thank God for his everlasting love and faithfulness.

## **City on a Hill**

### **Trustee's Report**

**For the year ended 31 July 2024**

### **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)**

#### **Go Global**

Go Global continued to operate under the City on a Hill SCIO until about halfway through the year, its operations transitioning to the new "Go Global Family" SCIO (which was established in August 2023). Go Global continued to work with churches in Africa, Asia and Europe. New churches were established in Kenya, South Africa and Myanmar.

Support for church leaders remained a priority this year. This was provided one-to-one and in group situations including the monthly "Leadership Hub" and twice-yearly "Global Leaders' Days". In November, Peter Anderson (City on a Hill's Lead Pastor and Founder of Go Global) visited churches in India, Nepal and Hong Kong to support and encourage the Go Global churches in those countries. November also saw the launch of the "Global Classroom", an initiative aimed at making ministry and theological training accessible to church leaders and members across the globe via interactive video teaching. Throughout the year, Go Global churches in the UK and Poland were supported through personal visits and all churches in the "Go Global Family" received the same "Global Day" sermon on Pentecost Sunday.

Through a combination of Go Global funds, contributions from City on a Hill's general fund and the generosity of the Church congregation, initiatives being undertaken by Go Global Family churches were supported, and individuals facing personal hardship were provided with funds for essential supplies.

#### **United in Prayer**

United in Prayer, which runs as part of the City on a Hill charity, continued to bring together church leaders both locally and nationally. Grants from 3W Foundation and The Haldane Trust, alongside donations from individuals and other Scottish churches, supported this ministry's ongoing work. The third annual National Pastors' Gathering was hosted at the Macdonald Inchyra Hotel in Falkirk again this year with close to 200 church leaders coming together for an evening and morning of intercession for revival in our nation.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The Trustees ensured good management of the Church's resources. The Church's principal source of income is regular donations from over 300 of our Church members, with occasional gifts from other organisations and external individuals. The Trustees continue to be very grateful for the generosity and ongoing financial support of so many towards the work of City on a Hill.

Total income was £847,934 (2023: £716,598) made up £632,324 (2023: £624,677) unrestricted income (of which £34,829 (2023: £71,940) was transferred to designated funds) and £215,610 (2023: £91,921) restricted income. Expenditure was £860,171 (2023: £741,101 made up of £679,559 (2023: £594,927) unrestricted expenditure, £48,740 (2023: £55,190) designated expenditure and £131,872 (2023: £90,984) restricted expenditure.

Net unrestricted funds at the end of the reporting period were £82,167 (2023: £164,231), designated funds were £27 (2023: £47,751), and restricted funds were £121,415 (2023: £3,864) – a total of £203,609 (2023: £215,846) net current assets.

The Trustees and SCIO Members approved a budget of £745,299 for the 12 months to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025, with a predicted deficit of £39,700 in unrestricted funds.



## City on a Hill

### Trustee's Report

For the year ended 31 July 2024

### FINANCIAL REVIEW (CONTINUED)

#### Reserves policy

The basic rationale for maintaining reserves is to enable the Church to continue to deliver its services in fulfilment of its purposes should any of the following occur: short- or medium-term deficit or larger one-off expenditure. Any of these scenarios could be deliberate, unplanned yet anticipated, or entirely unexpected. As City on a Hill moves into a new chapter with the purchase of its first property, the Trustees believe that the higher of £100,000 and 20% of committed annual expenditure is the minimum level of reserves which should be maintained in order to include capacity for emergency building maintenance which may be required from time to time. At the end of the current reporting period, total reserves were £203,609 (2023: £215,846), made up of unrestricted reserves of £82,167 (2023: £164,321), designated reserves of £27 (2023: £47,751) and restricted reserves of £121,415 (2023: £3,864). None of the current reserves are tied up in fixed assets therefore the "free reserves" are £82,167 at 31 July 2024 which falls slightly below the current minimum reserves target. However, the Trustees are satisfied that the reserves target is surpassed by inclusion of funds restricted for the Diadem Building Project against the need for possible emergency building maintenance. Collecting regular donations from church members remains a priority in helping to build by the Church's free reserves.

#### Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed the principal risks to which the Church is exposed and ensured that suitable mitigation is in place for each. The principal risks identified are:

**Financial:** The Trustees ensure that suitable financial controls are in place including appropriate security of funds, management of expenditure, and regular reporting to the Trustees.

**Safeguarding:** The Church takes working with vulnerable individuals very seriously and as such the Trustees have prioritised the implementation of robust policies and procedures in this area including: a strict recruitment policy, the requirement for all individuals working with vulnerable groups to be PVG checked, provision of relevant training, and regular reporting to the Trustees.

**Income and expenditure levels:** As the Church continues its current activities and implements future plans, it is important that income grows faster than expenditure. The Trustees have good reason to anticipate growing donor numbers but since the rate of increase cannot be guaranteed, close monitoring of the relative levels of income and expenditure is required. On the income side, donation trends are being scrutinised, and external grant funding is being investigated to support future projects. Expenditure-wise, consideration has been given to possible savings which could be implemented should the need arise.

#### PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

As we look ahead to the next 12 months, City on a Hill will continue to focus on strengthening existing ministries and infrastructure, whilst starting to pioneer additional outreach programs through our Communities. The intended purchase of "The Diadem" will yield many benefits: a permanent staff base and storage hub; a venue for whole-Church ministries such as Youth, Authentic, workshops and training; and opening up a wide range of opportunities for local outreach. We hope to begin refurbishing the facility soon after we move in and will be applying for grant funding to help us do so. Bolstering our staff team with Community Pastors for our Musselburgh and South Communities is expected to bring significant strength and growth in those areas, whilst the addition of a staff role to oversee the running of the Diadem is seen as necessary for the value of this asset to be fully realised within (and beyond) City on a Hill.

## **City on a Hill**

### **Trustee's Report**

**For the year ended 31 July 2024**

#### **Trustees' Responsibilities Statement**

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

The law applicable to charities in Scotland 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 the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to audit:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the method and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- 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 reports and financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its activities.

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 requirements of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) 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.

Approved on behalf of the Trustees on 2 April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



## City on a Hill

### Independent Auditor's Report

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of City on a Hill for the year ended 31 July 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cashflows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 July 2024, and of the charity's incoming resources and application of resources for the period 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 and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

#### 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 financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements 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 financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements 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 financial statements 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.

## **City on a Hill**

### **Independent Auditor's Report (continued)**

#### **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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 Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Report of the Trustees; or
- proper accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

#### **Responsibilities of trustees**

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

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are 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 trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## City on a Hill

### Independent Auditor's Report (continued)

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and report in accordance with regulations made under that Act.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements 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 financial statements.

We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Enquiry of charity management and those charged with governance to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including the testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of the charity's activities and reviewing accounting estimates for bias;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

## **City on a Hill**

### **Independent Auditor's Report (continued)**

#### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (continued)**

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>.

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### **Use of the report**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



MHA  
Statutory Auditor  
6 St Colme Street  
Edinburgh  
EH3 6AD

2 April 2025

MHA is the trading name of MacIntyre Hudson LLP, a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales (registered number OC312313)

*MHA is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.*

## City on a Hill

### Statement of Financial Activities For the year ended 31 July 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	2	627,386	-	215,610	842,996	713,926
Charitable activities	3	4,185	-	-	4,185	2,672
Investment income	4	753	-	-	753	-
<b>Total income</b>		<u>632,324</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>215,610</u>	<u>847,934</u>	<u>716,598</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Charitable activities	5	<u>(679,559)</u>	<u>(48,740)</u>	<u>(131,872)</u>	<u>(860,171)</u>	<u>(741,101)</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>(679,559)</u>	<u>(48,740)</u>	<u>(131,872)</u>	<u>(860,171)</u>	<u>(741,101)</u>
<b>Net (expenditure)/income</b>		(47,235)	(48,740)	83,738	(12,237)	(24,503)
Transfers between funds	12	<u>(34,829)</u>	<u>1,016</u>	<u>33,813</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(82,064)	(47,724)	117,551	(12,237)	(24,503)
Funds at 1 August 2023	12	<u>164,231</u>	<u>47,751</u>	<u>3,864</u>	<u>215,846</u>	<u>240,349</u>
Funds at 31 July 2024	12	<u>82,167</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>121,415</u>	<u>203,609</u>	<u>215,846</u>

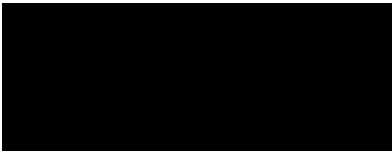
All income and expenditure are derived from continuing activities. The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities above.

City on a Hill

Balance Sheet  
As at 31 July 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	10	40,334	50,885
Cash at bank		<u>199,827</u>	<u>199,120</u>
		<u>240,161</u>	<u>250,005</u>
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Creditors falling due within one year	11	<u>(36,552)</u>	<u>(34,159)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>203,609</u>	<u>215,846</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>203,609</u>	<u>215,846</u>
<b>Funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds	12,13	82,167	164,231
Designated funds	12,13	27	47,751
Restricted funds	12,13	<u>121,415</u>	<u>3,864</u>
		<u>203,609</u>	<u>215,846</u>

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 2 April 2025 and signed on their behalf by:





## City on a Hill

### Reconciliation of net (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Net (expenditure) for the year (as per the SOFA)</b>	(12,237)	(24,503)
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Decrease in debtors	10,551	17,054
Increase in creditors	2,393	1,102
	<u>707</u>	<u>(6,347)</u>
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	<u>707</u>	<u>(6,347)</u>

### Statement of cash flows

		2024 £	2023 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>			
Net cash provided by/(used in) by operating activities		<u>707</u>	<u>(6,347)</u>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the period</b>	14	707	(6,347)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	14	<u>199,120</u>	<u>205,467</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	14	<u>199,827</u>	<u>199,120</u>

## City on a Hill

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 July 2024

#### 1. Accounting policies

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all periods unless otherwise stated.

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

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

City on a Hill meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

##### ***Going concern***

These financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis which assumes that the charity will continue its operations. There are no material uncertainties that exist or material changes in the way the charity operates and the Trustees consider it appropriate to prepare financial statements on a going concern basis.

##### ***Income***

All income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations, legacies and similar income resources are included in the period in which they are receivable, which is when the charity is entitled to the resource.

Charitable income, which can include income from grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income resources have been met, and it is probable the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity. This is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

## City on a Hill

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 July 2024

#### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

##### ***Expenditure***

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make settlement, it is probable that a payment to a third party will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

##### ***Expenditure recognition***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities, those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them and an allocation of governance costs. Support costs relate to the administrative cost of running the charity. Governance costs comprise these costs including public accountability and compliance with regulations and good practice. They therefore include the cost of statutory audit.

##### ***Foreign currency transactions***

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded using the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated using the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date and the gains and losses on translation are included in the statement of financial activities.

##### ***Debtors***

Debtors are measured at their recoverable amount and included when reasonable certainty exists over their receipt.

##### ***Cash at bank***

Cash at bank includes cash and highly liquid short-term investment with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

##### ***Creditors***

Creditors are recognised when 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 reliably.

##### ***Financial instruments***

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

##### ***Taxation***

City on a Hill is recognised as a charity with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator and is exempt from tax on income and gains to the extent those are applied to its charitable objectives. No tax charges have arisen in the year.

## City on a Hill

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 July 2024

#### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

##### ***Fund accounting***

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Designated funds are those unrestricted funds that have been earmarked by trustees for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor.

<b>2 Donations</b>	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
Tithe and offerings	507,056	186,815	693,871	600,742
Gift aid	113,577	28,795	142,372	106,475
Donations in kind	<u>6,753</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,753</u>	<u>6,709</u>
	<u>627,386</u>	<u>215,610</u>	<u>842,996</u>	<u>713,926</u>

Income from donations of £842,996 (2023: £713,926) comprises £627,386 (2023: £622,005) of unrestricted income and £215,610 (2023: £91,921) of restricted income.

<b>3 Charitable activities</b>	2024 £	2023 £
Event income	<u>4,185</u>	<u>2,672</u>

All income from charitable activities was unrestricted in the current and prior year.

<b>4 Investment income</b>	2024 £	2023 £
Interest	<u>753</u>	<u>-</u>

All investment income was unrestricted in the current and prior year.

## City on a Hill

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 July 2024

#### 5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries (note 6)	411,890	-	50,701	462,591	485,201
Ministry and gathering costs	153,560	-	16,722	170,282	138,535
Donations (note 7)	51,311	48,740	57,517	157,568	37,250
Support costs (note 8)	53,648	-	6,932	60,580	71,775
Governance costs (note 9)	9,150	-	-	9,150	8,340
	<u>679,559</u>	<u>48,740</u>	<u>131,872</u>	<u>860,171</u>	<u>741,101</u>

Expenditure on charitable activities of £860,171 (2023: £741,101) comprises £679,559 (2023: £594,927) of unrestricted expenditure, £48,740 (2023: £55,190) of designated expenditure and £131,872 (2023: £90,984) of restricted expenditure.

#### 6 Staff costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Gross salaries	417,940	437,863
Employers' national insurance	32,625	34,674
Employers' pension	<u>12,026</u>	<u>12,664</u>
	<u>462,591</u>	<u>485,201</u>
Average number of employees	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>

No employee (2023: One) received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

The total amount of remuneration received by key management personnel was £226,848 (2023: £237,070). Key management comprise the trustees, the Lead Pastor, the Executive Pastor, the North Community Pastor, the Head of Pastoral Care and Discipleship and the Finance and Admin Manager.

One trustee, [REDACTED] (2023: One), received remuneration amounting to £50,176 (2023: £65,810) for his role as Lead Pastor. The remuneration of trustees is permitted by the charity's constitution.

One trustee (2023: One) received reimbursement of expenses amounting to £4,399 (2023: £9,024) in the period.

## City on a Hill

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 July 2024

<b>7 Donations</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<i>Go Global Churches</i>		
City on a Hill, Ghana	-	4,952
House of Prayer Churches, Nepal	-	2,500
Divine Apostolic Ministries, Uganda	-	2,509
Oasis Church, Namibia	-	570
Ecclesia Home of Destiny Church, Gombe, Nigeria	1,500	6,700
Go Global, General	98,327	-
Go Global, India	28,920	-
Go Global, Poland/Ukraine	598	-
Go Global, Uganda	400	-
Go Global, Ghana	104	-
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	129,849	17,231
<i>Charitable organisations</i>		
Harvest Christian Fellowship	500	-
PS&Gs Churches	500	-
Ferrywell Youth Project	50	-
Junction 42	250	-
Generation Edinburgh	150	-
International Justice Mission	75	-
Life Church	250	-
Bethany Christian Church	325	550
Christian Heritage Edinburgh	840	840
Edinburgh City Mission	7,020	4,717
Edinburgh University Christian Union	-	250
Made for His Praise	250	250
Parliamentary Prayer Scotland	-	250
Safe Families	250	250
Survivors of Human Trafficking Scotland	250	250
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10,710	7,357
 Total donation to organisations	 140,559	 24,588
Hardship awards to 9 individuals (2023: 7)	16,024	9,750
Gifts to celebrate life events	985	2,912
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	157,568	37,250

**City on a Hill****Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 July 2024**

<b>8 Support costs</b>	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
Staff training and expenses	14,252	-	4,825	19,077	29,098
Office costs	26,331	-	840	27,171	26,473
Professional fees and subscriptions	11,676	-	-	11,676	14,877
Bank charges	1,389	-	1,267	2,656	1,327
	<u>53,648</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,932</u>	<u>60,580</u>	<u>71,775</u>
<b>9 Governance costs</b>				2024 £	2023 £
Audit fee				<u>9,150</u>	<u>8,340</u>
<b>10 Debtors</b>				2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors				1,020	-
Gift Aid				19,727	47,585
Prepayments				18,987	3,300
Other debtors				<u>600</u>	<u>-</u>
				<u>40,334</u>	<u>50,885</u>
<b>11 Creditors</b>				2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors				13,600	6,906
Accruals				12,852	14,854
Taxation and social security				7,971	10,654
Other creditors				<u>2,129</u>	<u>1,745</u>
				<u>36,552</u>	<u>34,159</u>

## City on a Hill

### Notes to the Financial statements For the year ended 31 July 2024

12 Movement in funds	At 31 July 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General fund	164,231	632,324	(679,559)	(34,829)	82,167
<b>Designated funds</b>					
Go Global	47,751	-	(48,740)	1,016	27
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Go Global	-	60,788	(107,719)	46,931	-
Poland	598	77	(598)	-	77
United in Prayer	3,152	17,974	(18,156)	-	2,970
Edinburgh City Mission	10	4,098	(4,108)	-	-
Ghana	104	550	(104)	-	550
Diadem Building	-	112,320	(734)	(11,215)	100,371
Kids Matter	-	750	(436)	-	314
Musselburgh Community Pastor	-	6,623	(8)	(661)	5,954
South Community Pastor	-	12,430	(9)	(1,242)	11,179
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	3,864	215,610	(131,872)	33,813	121,415
<b>Total funds</b>	215,846	847,934	(860,171)	-	203,609

Transfers out of restricted funds represents City on a Hill's policy of designating 10% of income received to Go Global.

	At 31 July 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General fund	206,421	624,677	(594,927)	(71,940)	164,231
<b>Designated funds</b>					
Go Global	29,049	-	(53,238)	71,940	47,751
Ghana	1,952	-	(1,952)	-	-
<b>Total designated funds</b>	31,001	-	(55,190)	71,940	47,751
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Go Global	-	66,020	(66,020)	-	-
Poland	20	578	-	-	598
United in Prayer	-	21,935	(18,783)	-	3,152
Edinburgh City Mission	-	3,284	(3,274)	-	10
Ghana	2,907	104	(2,907)	-	104
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	2,927	91,921	(90,984)	-	3,864
<b>Total funds</b>	240,349	716,598	(741,101)	-	215,846



## City on a Hill

### Notes to the Financial statements For the year ended 31 July 2024

#### 12 Movement in funds (continued)

##### Purposes of funds

##### Designated funds

Go Global works with churches in Scotland and around the world, providing support of various kinds (including financial) and encouraging peer support between churches. During the course of the year, Go Global became an independent Scottish charity. There is currently no formal or legal agreement between the City on a Hill SCIO and those churches associated with Go Global.

City on a Hill designates to Go Global 10% of donations to the general fund (not 10% of payments to general fund or income of any kind to other funds unless explicitly stated in communications relating to the fund). Occasionally, additional sums are designated to Go Global. Up to January, these funds were added to the designated fund. From February onwards, such funds were paid out directly to the Go Global Family SCIO.

Ghana – funds set aside to support a church in Ghana were brought forward from July 2022.

##### Restricted funds

Go Global - donations and payments to City on a Hill in support of Go Global.

Poland – donations given to support a church in Poland (which has been receiving Ukrainian refugees) were brought forward from July 2023.

United in Prayer – United in Prayer organises regular gatherings of church leaders across Scotland – both online and in person. Donations were received from individuals, other churches and grant funders in support of United in Prayer.

Edinburgh City Mission – donations collected around Christmas in support of Edinburgh City Mission's "New Scots" work with refugees and asylum seekers.

Ghana – donations given to support a church in Ghana were brought forward from July 2023.

Diadem building project – donations towards the purchase and renovation of "The Diadem" building, with 10% of donations being allocated for support of churches which Go Global works with in India.

Kids Matter – a grant was received from Edinburgh city Mission to fund the cost of running "Kids Matter" parenting courses.

Musselburgh Community Pastor – donations to underwrite the first year's salary of a Pastor for the Musselburgh Community of City of a Hill, with 10% of donations being allocated for the support of churches which Go Global works with in India.

South Community Pastor – donations to underwrite the first year's salary of a Pastor for the South Community of City of a Hill, with 10% of donations being allocated for the support of churches which Go Global works with in India.

## City on a Hill

### Notes to the Financial statements For the year ended 31 July 2024

<b>13 Analysis of net assets between funds</b>	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	2024 £
Net assets	<u>82,167</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>121,415</u>	<u>203,609</u>
	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	2023 £
Net assets	<u>164,231</u>	<u>47,751</u>	<u>3,864</u>	<u>215,846</u>
<b>14 Analysis of net funds</b>		<b>At 1 Aug 23 £</b>	<b>Cashflows £</b>	<b>At 31 Jul 24 £</b>
Cash at bank		<u>199,120</u>	<u>707</u>	<u>199,827</u>

### 15 Related party transactions

The charity received donations of £54,526 (2023: £49,871) from 5 Trustees (2023: 6 Trustees) during the year. Donations of £4,661 (2023: £9,898) were also received from trustees' close family members.

There are no other transactions with related parties, except for those disclosed in note 6 to the financial statements.