Companier House.

Company Registration number 10409374 Charity Registration number 1171176

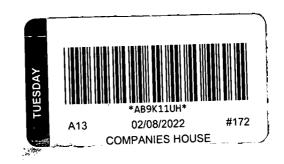
## **BETHANY CHRISTIAN CENTRE**

(a company limited by guarantee without share capital)

### ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 March 2022

Stephenson Coates Audit Limited Chartered Accountants West 2, Asama Court Newcastle Business Park Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 7YD



(a company limited by guarantee without share capital)

### REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The directors present their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

### Reference and administrative details

Company number

10409374

Charity number

1171176

Principal address

Bethany Church

Hetton Road

Houghton-le-Spring
Tyne and Wear, DH5 8PF

Independent examiner

John Oswald BA FCA

Stephenson Coates Audit Limited

Chartered accountants West 2, Asama Court Newcastle Business Park

Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7YD

**Bankers** 

Barclays Bank PLC

Newcastle City Office

Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4QL

**Solicitors** 

Square One Law

Anson House

The Fleming Business Centre

Burdon Terrace

Jesmond

Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3AE

### **Directors**

The directors who served during the year and up to the date of approval of this report were as follows:

S Anderson

G Barber retired 27 April 2022

P J Gill D J Keith N Holmes

K P Roberts retired 12 July 2021 R A Rust appointed 8 April 2022

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### REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

(continued)

### Structure, governance and management

### **Governing documents**

Bethany Christian Centre is a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 3 October 2016.

The charitable company was incorporated on 4 October 2016 (registration number 10409374) in order to provide a distinct legal entity to carry out the activities of Bethany Christian Centre which since 1995 had been undertaken through a charitable trust. The company was registered with the Charity Commission on 18 January 2017.

On 20 April 2017, the business of Bethany Christian Centre charitable trust (charity number 1060438) along with various associated assets and liabilities were transferred to the charitable company. On the same day, the charitable company entered into a lease of the property known as Bethany Church, Hetton Road, Houghton-le-Spring, DH5 8PF; the landlord for the purposes of the lease being the charitable company Bethany Christian Centre Property Trust (company registration number 10412204, charity number 1171231).

There are currently four members, each of whom agree to contribute £1 in the event of the charitable company winding up.

### Appointment and retirement of directors

Appointment of directors is governed by the existing directors of the charitable company. New directors must declare their belief in and allegiance to the Statement of Beliefs set out in the Articles of Association. Directors are appointed for a term of three years, at the end of which they retire. Retiring directors are eligible for reappointment for two further terms, each of three years.

### Director induction and training

Newly appointed directors will be from the existing leadership of the Church. New directors are furnished with a copy of the governing documents and a copy of the Charity Commission's guidance 'The Essential Trustee: What you need to know.'

### Organisation

The directors meet regularly to review the activities of the Church. The leadership of the Church (which include the directors) meet monthly and all meetings are minuted. Day to day activities are controlled by the Church administrator.

### Risk management

The directors have identified risks and taken steps to mitigate them:

- Risks to buildings and contents are insured.
- Public liability risks are insured.
- A safeguarding policy is in place, including vetting procedures.
- The fire safety risk has been assessed. Detection and fire fighting equipment is maintained to current standards. An evacuation policy is in place with designated responsibilities. All those involved were offered training during the period.

A member of staff is charged with health and safety and risk assessing.

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### REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

(continued)

### Objectives and activities

The Church operates from premises at Hetton Road, Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne and Wear. Church membership is voluntary and free.

The aims of the charitable company set out in the objects clause of the Articles of Association are:-

- a) To advance the Christian Faith, in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs;
- b) The relief of persons who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress or who are aged or sick;
- c) To promote and fulfil such other charitable purposes as the directors may from time to time think fit.

These aims are pursued in the Houghton-le-Spring area and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the World as the directors may from time to time think fit.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the directors have regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Despite the ongoing Covid19 pandemic and the resulting restrictions imposed by UK Government, it was hoped that activities at he Church would slowly start to resume, albeit not necessarily in the same form as before the pandemic. We also sought to to maintain our strong finances in the light of these external challenges.

The strategies adopted included continuing to broadcast our Sunday services on YouTube and the use of various other social media platforms to carry out our mission.

### Achievements and performance

Over the past 12 months, our Church has begun to resume meeting in person after almost two and half years of streaming our services online. Beginning on 11 April 2021, we started a phased process that saw our congregation slowly return to live services. After a few months of requiring people to book their spaces so we could maintain social distancing, and in line with government guidance, we have been able to fully welcome any and all who would like to attend.

This year, our Family Ministry put a children service on-line each week through August 2021. Through providing weekly challenges, Bible memory verses, creative craft projects, worship songs and an encouraging message, our team was able to continue serving not just our regular attenders but families in the community as well. We also offered an online Easter Club for children to participate. Over four days of broadcast, we had 1,200 views. On 12<sup>th</sup> September, we welcomed back children from birth to Year 6 for our Sunday morning ARK service. In addition, Family Ministry hosted Youth Meet Ups for Year 7-12 students on Tuesday nights beginning in April. This allowed for students to bring friends in a safe environment and experience social interaction after much isolation due to the pandemic. A New Mother's Support Group was also started during this time as multiple families needed encouragement and prayer after bringing another child into the home.

Our "Christians Against Poverty" (CAP) Centre (registered charity number 1097217 and company registered number 4655175) has seen 12 clients become debt free during the past year. We arranged and donated 24 food shops for client families, delivered Christmas Hampers to 25 families, hosted a Christmas party for client families that totalled 40 adults and 20 children, and donated Easter Blessing bags to 23 families with 30 children. Our relationship with various agencies in Houghton le Spring and the surrounding area remains very strong and they continue to promote the services of our CAP Centre to their clients.

In addition, our CAP Centre applied for and received a grant this year from the County Durham Community Foundation for £269 to buy a new washing machine for a client. And finally, provided two families with school uniforms.

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### REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

(continued)

### Achievements and performance (continued)

Our food bank had another busy year with 230 food parcels being distributed during the past 12 months. Throughout the pandemic, many local agencies have offered more food parcels which has eased the pressure on our own food bank facilities. We are again extremely grateful for the support of the Church membership keeping our food bank topped up with items of food as well as donations of cash to allow us to buy in supplies. We have also received help with vouchers from Sunderland City Council Crisis Team which has allowed us to include £20 vouchers with every parcel we have donated. Other churches, such as Houghton Methodist Church, individuals and local organisations have continued to support our food bank with food items or cash donations. This support is greatly appreciated.

Within our local community, there are four primary schools very close to our Church building. Last year, as part of our Christmas outreach, we donated 70 hampers that went to needy families within those schools. Each hamper was put together by our Church staff and volunteers. They included food, toiletries, and a £20 voucher from Sunderland City Council.

There has been a tremendous amount of partnership and service seen in our immediate area. We hosted the "Wear Here 4 Summer" Family Day in August sponsored by the Department of Education, Together for Children Sunderland, and the Sunderland City Council. Over 200 people enjoyed games, inflatables, activities, and free food. In October 2021, we took part in our local "Houghton Feast" by sponsoring a Fireworks Café that included more than 250 people receiving free soup and a bun whilst being able to enjoy a fireworks display.

In addition, we led several local schools RE Visits, the Gillas Lane Primary School Lego Club (15 children), and hosted many Beavers Meetings, school nativity plays, and our local Stroke Association and Motor Neurone Disease meetings. We were also able to organise a Clothing Bank Drive to benefit Gillas Lane Primary Academy and Burnside Academy.

### Financial review

Members giving fell this year from £256,618 last year to £244,985. This was mainly down to our not taking up a collection at our Sunday morning services. The Covid pandemic means that many older members in particular have not returned to Church services and several key donors personal circumstances have changed whereby they have had to reduce their giving to the Church quite significantly.

However, special collections which have been designated for three projects in particular took place during the year. Our first was for the school being built in the Democratic Republic of Congo which was officially opened on the 4 June 2022. One of our members Jim Smith has been out to Katoka to help with the final building work at the site. Secondly £3,700 was raised for our food bank to help fund Christmas Food Hampers to 70 families in the area and CAP clients. Finally, almost £8,000 was raised for relief aid in the Ukraine. The Church supported the work of Ukraine Christian Ministries, Operation Mobilisation and Faith In Action Missions who are all working in the Ukraine. We were also fortunate to receive support, from Bethany Christian Centre Property Trust Limited, to pay for building repairs, All Churches Trust for AV equipment in our classrooms and Sunderland City Council for our Food Bank.

We continue to set aside 2.2% of our income to maintain a fund for future repairs to the building. As at the year end this amounted to £25,324, just over our target of £25,000 which was set 5 years ago. We will continue to set aside 2.2% each year as Bethany Christian Centre Property Trust Limited has ceased its undertaking to pay for all repair works. Over the past five years we have received support of over £70,000 from the Property Trust to pay for many repairs, including £9,000 for repair for damage caused by the winter storms.

While the small loss was not unexpected for the year as most activities resumed during the year which increases expenses in general. This coming year will be more of a challenge owing to very high inflationary pressures on expenditure, wages and also the effect these inflationary pressures may have on members giving.

Overall, the directors consider the slight deficit for the year as acceptable owing to the continuing Covid related pressures.

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### REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

(continued)

### Investment and reserves policies

Surplus funds are held in interest bearing accounts which allow quick access to the funds should the need arise. A review of returns is periodically undertaken to ensure a competitive return and maximum security of our funds.

The directors seek to maintain free reserves at around £60,000 to provide working capital for the activities of the Church and also to provide cover for unforeseen changes in income. At the end of the year, free reserves were £116,803 (2021: £124,231).

### Plans for future

Momentum is returning to the Church, both in attendances and activities held within the building. The Church remains financially healthy with decent cash reserves which hopefully will help us weather the financial storms of this new financial year. How inflation will affect members giving and the rising costs of utilities will need the trustees to carefully monitor the situation.

### Statement of directors' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

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

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of 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;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping accounting records which 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. They 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.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the directors on 11 July 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

P J Gill Director

## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE DIRECTORS OF BETHANY CHRISTIAN CENTRE

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the '2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

### Independent examiner's report

I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

- 1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2) the accounts do not accord with those accounting records; or
- 3) the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4) the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

John Qwald.

John Oswald BA FCA
Stephenson Coates Audit Limited
Chartered accountants
West 2 Asama Court
Newcastle Business Park
Newcastle upon Tyne

NE47YD

11 July 2022

(a company limited by guarantee without share capital)

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	2021 Total
INCOME FROM				
Donations and legacies:				
Church members	198,381	46,604	244,985	256,618
Gift aid tax recoverable	44,692	8,205	52,897	53,469
Grants	810	2,250	3,060	16,820
	243,883	57,059	300,942	326,907
Charitable activities:	<del></del>	<del></del>		<del></del>
Use of facilities donations	650	-	650	-
Ministries	9,124	-	9,124	26
Miscellaneous	<u>298</u>		<u>298</u>	
	10,072	-	10,072	26
			<del></del>	
Investment income:				
Interest receivable	<u>265</u>		<u> 265</u>	<u>301</u>
Total	254,220	57,059	311,279	327,234
EXPENDITURE ON				
Charitable activities:				
Evangelism	27,175	7,171	34,346	24,409
Gifts and missionary support	13,009	40,054	53,063	35,241
Staff costs (note 2)	144,230	10,139	154,369	149,783
Premises and office costs	63,093	-	63,093	80,291
Independent examiner's fee Depreciation	1,670 _9,384	-	1,670 <u>9,384</u>	1,620 <u>8,491</u>
Total	258,561	57,364	315,925	299,835
Net (expenditure)/income	(4,341)	(305)	(4,646)	27,399
Funds brought forward	<u>151,901</u>	<u>1,443</u>	153,344	125,945
Funds carried forward	£147,560	£1,138	£148,698	£153,344

(a company limited by guarantee without share capital)

# BALANCE SHEET at 31 March 2022

	Note		2022	2021
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible fixed assets	3		30,757	27,670
CURRENT ASSETS				
Sundry debtors	4	10,476		10,857
Bank deposit account		132,633		122,292
Bank current account		17,341		26,026
Cash in hand		231		423
		160,681		159,598
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	5	42,740		33,924
NET CURRENT ASSETS			117,941	125,674
TOTAL ASSETS LESS				
CURRENT LIABILITIES			£148,698	£153,344
FUNDS				
Unrestricted funds			147,560	151,901
Restricted funds	7		1,138	1,443
			£148,698	£153,344
				<del></del>

In approving these financial statements (which include the notes on pages 9 to 12) as directors of the charitable company, we hereby confirm:

- (a) that for the period stated above the charitable company was entitled to the exemption conferred by Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006;
- (b) that no notice has been deposited at the registered office of the charitable company pursuant to Section 476 requesting that an audit be conducted for the year ended 31 March 2022 and
- (c) that we acknowledge our responsibilities for:
  - ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 386, and
  - preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of the financial period and of its profit or loss for the period then ended in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the provisions of the Companies Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small entities regime of Financial Reporting Standard 102.

These financial statements were approved by the directors on 11 July 2022 and are signed on their behalf

S Anderson Director

Company registration number: 10409374

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(a company limited by guarantee without share capital)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 March 2022

### 1 Accounting policies

### 1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the 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 (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to smaller entities. The charitable company is a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

The financial accounts are prepared in Sterling (£), which is the functional currency of the charitable company.

### 1.2 Going concern

The directors of the charitable company are satisfied that there are no material uncertainties concerning the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements. Accordingly, the financial statements continue to be prepared on the going concern basis.

### 1.3 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are those available for use at the discretion of the directors in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are those that are to be used in accordance with the specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

Designated funds are earmarked by the directors for particular purposes.

### 1.4 Income

Giving - Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the Church. Planned giving under Gift Aid is recognised only when received. Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised. Grants and legacies are accounted for as soon as the Church is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the Church is certain.

Investment income — Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

### 1.5 Expenditure

Charitable activities — The cost of charitable activities represents the cost of undertaking the charity's objectives. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Value added tax is not recoverable by the charitable company and as such it is included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost over their expected useful economic lives as follows:

Fixtures and fittings 20% straight line basis Equipment 20% straight line basis

Computer equipment 331/3% straight line basis

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## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

### 1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

Fixtures, fittings and equipment are reviewed for impairment if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of such assets may not be recoverable. If there is an indication of possible impairment, the recoverable amount of any affected asset is estimated and compared against its carrying amount. Where the estimated recoverable amount is lower, an impairment loss is recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities.

### 1.8 Debtors and creditors due within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

### 1.9 Operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are reflected in the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred.

#### 1.10 Pension costs

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its staff. The schemes and their assets are held by independent managers. The pension charge in the financial statements represents contributions due from the charity for the period.

### 1.11 Voluntary assistance

Time is expended on the charity's activities and governance which is donated free of charge. It is impractical to quantify the value of the time given, and accordingly it is neither recorded as donated income nor as an expense in the financial statements.

### 2. Staff costs

No remuneration was paid to directors in the year, nor were any expenses reimbursed to them. For the purposes of FRS102, the directors are considered to be key management personnel.

Staff costs in the period comprised:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	133,686	130,760
Social security costs	8,419	7,679
Pensions contributions	12,264	11,635
	154,369	150,074
	***	

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

Employees <u>5</u> <u>5</u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either period.

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# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

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Tangible fixed assets	Fixtures & fittings £	Equipment	Computer equipment £	Tota
Cost:	_		-	
At 1 April 2021	12,487	38,860	11,615	62,962
Additions	<u>-</u>	11,764	707	12,47
At 31 March 2022	12,487	50,624	12,322	75,433
Depreciation:				
At 1 April 2021	7,829	20,953	6,510	35,292
Charge for year	708	7,046	1,630	9,384
At 31 March 2022	8,537	27,999	8,140	44,676
Net book amount:				
At 31 March 2022	3,950	22,625	4,182	30,757
At 31 March 2021	4,658	17,907	5,105	27,670
All fixed assets are used for charitab  Debtors	ole purposes.			
Due within one year:			2022 £	2021 £
Gift aid tax recoverable			5,282	6,514
Interest receivable			5,202	78
Prepayments				
			5,194	3,951
Other debtors			5,194 <del>-</del>	
Other debtors			5,194  10,476	3,951
Other debtors				3,951 <u>314</u>
Other debtors  Creditors: amounts falling due wit	thin one year		10,476	3,951 314 10,857
	thin one year		10,476	3,951 314 10,857 ————————————————————————————————————
Creditors: amounts falling due wit	thin one year		10,476 ————————————————————————————————————	3,951 314 10,857 
Creditors: amounts falling due with the control of	thin one year		10,476  2022 £ 3,131	3,951 314 10,857 
Creditors: amounts falling due with Other taxes and social security Accrued expenditure	thin one year		10,476  2022 £ 3,131 6,173	3,951 314 10,857 
Creditors: amounts falling due with Other taxes and social security Accrued expenditure Building maintenance provision	thin one year		10,476  2022 £ 3,131	3,951 314 10,857 
	thin one year		10,476  2022 £ 3,131 6,173 25,324	3,951 314 10,857 

(a company limited by guarantee without share capital)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

### 6 Related party disclosures

No person connected with the directors has been paid or is payable remuneration or other benefits from the funds of the charity. The charity operates from premises owned by Bethany Christian Centre Property Trust (company registration 10412204); under a 25 year lease at a peppercorn rent. Mr S Anderson is a director of both companies.

### 7 Restricted funds

	Movement				
	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2022	
	£	£	£	£	
Mission gifts Katoka School building	-	6,406	-6,406	• -	
project	-	26,165	-26,165	-	
CAP gifts	-	10,139	-10,139	-	
Food bank cash donations	1,443	4,616	-4,921	1,138	
Ukraine appeal	-	7,483	-7,483	-	
Allchurches Trust grant	-	2,250	-2,250	-	
	1,443	57,059	-57,364	1,138	

	Movement			
	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£
Mission gifts Katoka School building	-	13,724	-13,724	-
project	3,464	1,500	-4,964	-
CAP gifts	-	11,161	-11,161	-
Food bank cash donations Video equipment	349	6,806	-5,712	1,443
donation	-	6,250	-6,250	-
Allchurches Trust grant		15,000	-15,000	
	3,813	54,441	-56,811	1,443

Restricted funds are held as current assets.