

# Urban Expression

English Charity Number: 1090734

## Annual Accounts

For the Year Ended 31 December 2018

## Urban Expression Annual Report 2018

Charity Name                      Urban Expression  
Charity Number                in England and Wales            1090734

### Contact Details

Urban Expression  
PO Box 16991  
Birmingham  
B32 9HX  
United Kingdom

### Trustees

Trustees for the Year to December 2018 were

Chair	Dave Close	resigned 18 June 2018
	Phil Warburton	appointed interim chair 10 October 2018

Treasurer		Position vacant
	Catherine Cowell	resigned 10 May 2018
	Emma Scott	resigned 10 May 2018
	Andy Turner	
	Elsbeth Barron	appointed 10 May 2018

All trustees act in a voluntary capacity they may claim out of pocket travelling expenses.  
New trustees are appointed by a simple majority of existing trustees.

### Coordinators

Jim Kilpin	resigned 13 October 2018
Juliet Kilpin	resigned 31 December 2017
Stuart Murray Williams	
Alex Elish	
Regional Coordinators	
Angie Tunstall North West	resigned 1 June 2017
Simon Jay West Midlands	
Phil Warburton East Midlands	resigned 31 March 2018
Carmel Murphy Yorkshire	resigned 31 March 2018

### Governance

Urban Expression is a registered charity, governed by declaration of trust executed on the 8 October 2001 as amended 11 June 2008 and by deeds of variation dated 21 April 2010 and 12 July 2010.

The Objectives of the Charity are:

to advance the Christian faith in London and in such parts of the United Kingdom as the trustees may from time to time think fit by recruiting, equipping, deploying and supporting teams which will pioneer innovative and relevant expressions of the Christian Church.

to fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable in the law of England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the Trust.

### Reserves Policy

1. Urban Expression is a small charity entirely dependent upon grants and donations. UE is a values-driven organisation which is both shaped and served by those values including the importance of taking risks that it is acceptable to fail.

As such, the trustees do not believe it would be appropriate for Urban Expression to build up substantial long-term reserves.

Whilst expenditure is relatively stable, income, however, has proved to be very volatile. Over the last five years, total income has been as low as £72,000 and as high as £140,000. Urban Expression has no guaranteed income beyond the current financial year.

2. The trustees believe, therefore, that it is not unreasonable for the charity to aspire to hold reserves of up to twelve months' core running costs. While this figure is high, the trustees believe it is necessary to allow sufficient time to raise further income, or, if unsuccessful to give staff the contracted six months' notice.

As a minimum, therefore, Urban Expression will hold reserves of six months' salaries costs. This figure will not include the costs of those paid a regular fee, but who are not on Urban Expression's payroll.

3. Reserves will be measured excluding expenditure only incurred as a result of specific income. For example, fees received for services delivered which would not have been otherwise delivered or income received to be passed on as donations to specific individuals.

Reserves will be measured to include grants received to span more than one financial year. They will also include grants received for specific purposes where it has not been possible to spend the money within the period, but where it is still intended to incur that expenditure.

4. Reserves will be reported to trustees six monthly as part of the management accounts.

## **Report on Charitable Activities**

### **Urban Expression and The Jerusalem Trust**

For over a decade Urban Expression has greatly valued a supportive relationship with The Jerusalem Trust, receiving several grants of varying amounts, primarily to contribute towards staff costs and development. The Jerusalem Trust has been our most generous and consistent financial supporter. The grants we have received have made a very significant contribution to the growth and development of Urban Expression. At a time when many grant-making charities are inundated with applications and we have struggled to obtain the funding we need, the consistent support of the Jerusalem Trust has been more important than ever.

In January 2018 we submitted an application for a further grant and the trustees responded by making a two-year grant of £55,000, the first tranche of which was drawn down in March 2018. This is our report on the use of those funds. We are very grateful for this grant and hope the trustees are encouraged by this report.

## **Team Developments**

We continue to monitor changing demographics in relation to the areas in which we have mostly operated during the past 21 years and the prevalence of social deprivation, low church attendance and other forms of marginality elsewhere than the inner cities and outlying housing estates in which our teams have usually been deployed. We remain deeply committed to responding to the challenges and opportunities on the margins of church and society, but we recognise the need to be flexible in relation to what this means. While our primary focus will continue to be on urban contexts, we are open to responding to other invitations. With this in view, we have entered into a partnership with another mission agency, Rural Ministries, which has similar values to Urban Expression but focuses on marginal rural contexts. This was mentioned as a possibility in a previous report and has now become a reality.

There have been two early developments from this partnership. We now have a team in Looe, on the south coast of Cornwall, jointly overseen by Urban Expression and Rural Ministries. This is a holiday destination within which there is a considerable amount of hidden poverty. Rural Expression is also partnering us in the delivery of our Crucible course in Exeter, helping us to tailor the course to the much more rural context of the south-west of England, in which we hope further teams may be deployed in due course.

Another geographical expansion in the past year has been into the north of England. Although we have a number of teams in Stoke, Manchester and Ellesmere Port, most of our teams are in the Midlands or further south. But during the autumn we deployed a new team in Sheffield, in January we welcomed a new team in Carlisle into Urban Expression, and we are currently talking with an existing mission team in Hull with a view to Urban Expression providing support for them. As our regional coordinator in Manchester, Angie Tunstall, retired in December, our current staffing priority is to appoint a new north of England coordinator.

Further south, we are in conversation with a team in West London involved in church planting in the context of an inner-city football club, and we are about to receive an application from someone in Ramsgate who is forming a team on a socially deprived estate in the town with almost no church presence. We have a new team in Bath and have received an application from another pioneer in that city. We have also been invited to partner with a group of local Baptist ministers in a mission initiative in Purfleet, East London.

We are also celebrating the departure of one of our Manchester teams. As a mission agency, we are pleased when one of our teams reaches the point of self-sufficiency and has other means of support. This enables us to focus on initiating new projects rather than becoming caught up in maintenance. Our Manchester team has planted 'Church Without Walls', which is a member of the North West Baptist Association. We currently have 24 teams across the country at various stages of development.

## **Infrastructure**

The basic structure of Urban Expression has not changed, although some of the personnel have. Our trustees meet twice a year to provide overall direction, support and accountability. We were hoping to add three new trustees to this body in 2018, but a combination of ill-health and changed work commitments have precluded them from accepting our invitation. However, we will be joined by a new trustee in April and will be seeking others during 2019. We continue to have (voluntary) regional advisors in each of the regions where we work, supporting the work of our (paid) regional coordinators.

We mentioned in the previous report that Urban Expression had been struggling to secure adequate funding to maintain and develop our work. There were a number of factors in this, including external pressures on our treasurer and reports from several grant-making charities that they had been inundated with applications and were unable to offer us funding. In light of this, we made some changes to our structures and personnel in the first half of 2018 in order to reduce costs. Having previously operated with a two-tier core team of national and regional coordinators, we are now operating with a single team of coordinators, sharing out regional and wider responsibilities among us.

This change of structure coincided with decisions by some of the team that their involvement should change. As mentioned above, Angie Tunstall retired in December 2018. The funding for Phil Warburton and Carmel Murphy from regional Baptist Associations came to an end during 2018, but both were ready to step down anyway in light of other work commitments. Rae Pears also stepped down in September 2018 as she took on new work responsibilities, as did Jim Kilpin to pursue a new role in his home town. However, they all remain involved with Urban Expression in various ways – Phil is now chair of our trustees, Angie, Carmel and Rae are team leaders in Manchester, Stoke and Bristol respectively, and Jim is a mission partner.

The reconfigured coordinating team is comprised of Simon Jay (Midlands and youth), Rachel Jay (operations and finance), Barney Barron (South-west), Gordon McDade and Karen Sethuraman (Ireland), Alexandra Elish (South-east and training) and Stuart Murray Williams (strategy and communication). We hope soon to appoint a new coordinator in the north of England. This reconfigured team seems to be working well together and seems able to provide support for the mission teams and strategic direction for Urban Expression. One of the strategic decisions we have made is to invest much more heavily in supporting new and younger teams, recognising that more established teams need less from us. We will be monitoring these changes throughout 2019.

## **How our activities deliver public benefit**

Urban Expression teams and mission partners are located in areas of social marginality and are involved in a wide range of initiatives that benefit their neighbourhoods. These include the provision of activities for families, youth and children; parenting classes; arts festivals; environmental development; community organising; engagement with homeless people and refugees; developing accessible forms of church; inter-faith dialogue; and much else.

## **Who used and benefited from our services**

A wide range of people draw on the resources and activities of Urban Expression. Members of the neighbourhoods in which the teams are located are the primary beneficiaries, but our training initiatives benefit those who are working in many other locations, including church leaders, members of other mission agencies, community leaders and theological students. Our priority is to engage with those who are on the margins of church and society, bringing some resources and expertise but also exploring ways to develop assets already present among those with whom we work.

## **Other Developments**

### **1. Urban Life**

Urban Expression is one of the partners in this initiative, on which we have reported previously. Urban Life has been going through a transitional phase following the departure of its founding director. Three new co-directors have been appointed, including Carmel Murphy from Urban Expression, and we will be represented on the board of trustees. This continues to be a very helpful resource for our teams and coordinators.

### **2. Crucible Course**

Having run the Crucible course in Birmingham for thirteen years, we took the decision a year ago to move to new locations in order to bring the course closer to other regions of the country. During this academic year we are running the course in both London and Exeter and have been encouraged by the response thus far. In March we held 'taster days' in both Manchester and Southampton with a view to running the course in these places from the autumn, in addition to London and Exeter.

Expanding the reach of the course will necessitate the strengthening of the team of trainers, so we have been running 'training the trainers' sessions with a view to developing regional training teams, supported by those who have taught the course in recent years. This is a very significant development of our training arm.

### **3. Community Gatherings**

We continue to organise three opportunities each year for team members and mission partners to gather for training, sharing news and stories, prayer and relaxation. During the past twelve months these have included a community weekend, a training day and a retreat day. These opportunities are in addition to local/regional gatherings organised by various coordinators. The community weekend, in particular, is an opportunity for children and teenagers from across the Urban Expression network to spend time together.

### **4. Netherlands**

Urban Expression in The Netherlands has continued to develop, with eleven teams now operating there. Three of us joined them to celebrate their 10th anniversary in September 2018.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 31 October 2019

and signed on their behalf by:

.....

Chair of Trustees

31 October 2019

## Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Urban Expression ("The Trust")

### Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Urban Expression

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2018.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of The Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). You are satisfied that your charity is not required by charity law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the requirements of the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

#### Independent examiner's statement - matter of concern identified

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

1. accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or

2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I confirm that there are no other matters to which attention should be drawn to enable in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Sheena Gibson FCCA  
Henderson Loggie  
Chartered Accountants  
The Vision Building  
20 Greenmarket  
Dundee  
DD1 4QB

31 October 2019

## Urban Expresssion

Receipts and payments account  
for the year ended 31 December 2018

		2018			2017
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
<b>Receipts</b>					
Donations and grants received	1	52,319	16,276	68,595	82,790
Activities for generating funds	2	2,813	8,612	11,425	13,184
Investment income		-	-	-	10
<b>Total receipts</b>		<b>55,132</b>	<b>24,888</b>	<b>80,020</b>	<b>95,984</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Charitable activities	3	31,471	22,574	54,045	118,372
Governance costs	4	1,793	-	1,793	1,876
Total payments		<b>33,264</b>	<b>22,574</b>	<b>55,838</b>	<b>120,248</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>(2,852)</b>	<b>2,852</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>		<b>19,015</b>	<b>5,166</b>	<b>24,182</b>	<b>(24,264)</b>
Total funds brought forward		<b>3,668</b>	<b>3,114</b>	<b>6,782</b>	<b>31,046</b>
Total funds carried forward		<b>22,683</b>	<b>8,280</b>	<b>30,963</b>	<b>6,782</b>

# Urban Expresssion

## Statement of balances for the year ended 31 Decemer 2018

		2018		2017	
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>Bank balances</b>					
Opening balance			6,782		31,046
Surplus (deficit) for year			24,182		(24,264)
			<u>30,964</u>		<u>6,782</u>
<b>Charitable Funds</b>					
Restricted	5		8,280		3,114
Unrestricted			22,683		3,668
			<u>30,964</u>		<u>6,782</u>
<b>Assets</b>					
Debtors due as at the year end:			189		-
Gift aid			1,230		1,472
Paypal			2,648		34
HMRC PAYE outstanding as at 31.12.18					-
			<u>4,067</u>		<u>1,506</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>					
HMRC PAYE outstanding as at 31.12.18			-		1,082
Independent examiner's fee			1,080		714
			<u>1,080</u>		<u>1,796</u>

These accounts were approved by the Trustees on 31 October 2019

and signed on their behalf by:

.....

.....  
Chair of Trustees

31 October 2019



# Urban Expresssion

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017

	2018			2017
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
<b>1 Voluntary income</b>				
Donations	3,727	276	4,003	8,416
Grants Received	48,592	16,000	64,592	74,374
	<u>52,319</u>	<u>16,276</u>	<u>68,595</u>	<u>82,790</u>
Material items included within the Unrestricted Grants Received include; Jerusalem Trust (£30,000) and London Mennonite Trust (£15,000). An analysis of Restricted items is given in Note 5. Donations were made up of smaller personal contributions.				
<b>2 Activities for generating funds</b>				
Event Income	2,811	1,485	4,296	13,184
Other incoming resources	2	7,127	7,130	-
	<u>2,813</u>	<u>8,612</u>	<u>11,425</u>	<u>13,184</u>
<b>3 Costs of activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives</b>				
Staff costs	19,811	11,318	31,129	69,238
Coordinators Fees	88	438	525	9,571
Travel & Subsistence	3,529	1,991	5,520	10,778
Personnel Support Costs	-	-	-	3,109
Administration	1,601	18	1,619	2,343
Training Events	5,307	3,366	8,673	20,319
Publicity	-	412	412	999
Insurance	516	-	516	398
Payroll Fees	322	-	322	528
Urban Life Grant	-	-	-	-
Church of the Brethern	-	-	-	-
Anabaptist Network	-	-	-	-
Other costs	279	5,032	5,310	1,089
	<u>31,451</u>	<u>22,574</u>	<u>54,025</u>	<u>118,372</u>
<b>4 Governance costs</b>				
Independent examiner's fee	996.08	-	996	1,050
Trustee Expenses	797	-	797	826
	<u>1,793</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,793</u>	<u>1,876</u>

Number of trustees who were paid expenses was 3 (2017: 3). All relate to travel & subsistence costs.

## 5 Movements of Restricted Funds

	At 1 January 2018	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	At 31 December 2018
BMS - Crucible bursaries	-	1,000	(87)	(215)	698
BMS - Other Crucible income		2,076	(4,999)	2,923	-
Sue Rouse Charity	429	-	(573)	144	-
EMBA	-	550	(335)	-	215
HEBA	689	5,600	(4,752)	-	1,537
YBA	-	662	(262)	-	400
Other	1,996	-	-	-	1,996
BIC	-	10,000	(6,566)	-	3,434
BIC grant	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
	<b>3,114</b>	<b>24,888</b>	<b>(22,574)</b>	<b>2,852</b>	<b>8,280</b>

### Fund notes

BMS World Mission give Crucible bursaries to assist those who could not otherwise attend the training conference due to costs of fees and accomodation.

Sue Rouse Charity donated funds to be used on new projects; these are in the planning stage.

EMBA, HEBA and YBA have all contributed towards the stipend of a Coordinator for their region.

Peaceful Borders is a grass-roots collaboration of peace-makers responding to the movements of displaced people across Europe and the unregulated spaces at our borders.

BIC donated funds to be used for the support of a staff member's networking and development role