



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From January 2022 to December 2022

Charity name: Open Table Network (OTN)

Charity registration number: 1193868

Objectives and Activities

<p>Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document</p>	<p>The object of the CIO is the advancement of the Christian faith, in particular but not exclusively amongst lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, questioning, intersex or asexual (LGBTQIA+) Christians, by:</p> <p>(a) supporting and affirming people identifying as LGBTQIA+ and those questioning their sexuality or gender identity within churches in the United Kingdom, by giving pastoral support and facilitating the provision of acts of Christian worship, in particular the celebration of Holy Communion:</p> <p>(b) promoting knowledge and mutual understanding of human sexuality and gender identity in the churches through discussion, study and the sharing of people's stories</p> <p>(c) supporting and standing in solidarity with those churches that include and affirm LGBTQIA+ Christians by providing theological resources and networking opportunities.</p>
<p>Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.</p>	<p>Activities - how the charity spends its money</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage provision of inclusive 'Open Table Worship' (chiefly Communion) in affiliated churches, & creation of 'Open Table Communities' comprising those who attend. • Maintain an office and online presence. • Resource hub for churches, providing separate activities, support, speakers, worship materials & guidance. • Pastoral resource for individual enquirers, offering workshops & other gatherings. <p>What the charity does:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Religious activities • Human rights / religious or racial harmony / equality and diversity <p>Who the charity helps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other charities or voluntary bodies • Other defined groups <p>How the charity helps:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides services • Provides advocacy/advice/information • Sponsors or undertakes research • Acts as an umbrella or resource body <p>Where the charity operates: Throughout England And Wales</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	The trustees have read and are aware of the guidance issued.
Policy on grant making	We aspire to be in a position to make grants to communities within the Open Table Network, and other groups with similar aims, though as a newly established charity, we are not yet in a position to do this.
Contribution made by volunteers	<p>As a growing partnership of communities across the UK, we hugely valued the contributions of 230 volunteers across the 31 communities we have supported in 2022. 112 were new to volunteering with OTN this year.</p> <p>Independent research into the experiences of OTN's volunteers in 2021 showed that gave significant contributions of time to OTN communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23% completed 1-2 hours a month • 59% completed 1-2 hours a week • 13% completed 2-4 hours a week • 5% completed 10+ hours a week <p>Using this as a guide, OT volunteers gave around 2330 hours in 2022.</p> <p>In this consultation it was clear that OTN's volunteers want to be better equipped to lead their communities and provide more informed pastoral support. In 2022 we secured funding to resource training to begin meeting this need.</p> <p>The value of volunteering and delivery of social action with and for marginalised communities is a real asset to OTN's work.</p>

Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	<p>OTN is balancing a glaring inequality. LGBTQIA+ people can go to a town hall, a cafe, a beach, a cinema and feel accepted. But they cannot go to church without risking either a cold shoulder or open hostility.</p> <p>The communities that we help to establish, and support as they develop, are balancing that inequality, resulting in proven improved mental health and well-being for those who belong to them.</p>
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Independent research into the experiences of OTN's community members in 2021 showed that:

- 56% said being LGBTQIA+ is a barrier to belonging in a faith community.
- On average, our members experienced a 40% improvement in well-being after joining an Open Table community
- 87% feel less isolated and more socially connected after joining an Open Table community.
- 92% said being part of an Open Table community increased their sense of belonging.
- 89% said being part of an Open Table community provided a safe space for them.
- 78% said there is a need for an LGBTQIA+ organisation to bridge the gap between the Christian community and the LGBTQIA+ community.

We know that these communities are needed, and the need is growing:

- In 2022 we supported 21 communities, including the relaunch of two communities unable to meet since before the Covid pandemic, and launched 10 new communities, bringing the total to 31.
- We also supported 33 other churches to explore whether to host an Open Table community, and hosted consultations with eight of these.
- In 2023 we have already confirmed the launch of three new communities, and scheduled a consultation with one church seeking to host an Open Table community.
- The number of people engaging with OTN is also growing:

- In 2022, the average number of monthly contacts across 31 communities, plus consultations with churches and other events, was 655 (a 56% increase on 2021).

- If we also add contacts through online outreach and other activities, the total is 50,853 (a 15% decrease on 2021 due to a shift in focus to in-person engagement).

We are neither an evangelising nor a campaigning organisation. Our aim is to create equality of opportunity. OTN works to give LGBTQIA+ people what other people take for granted: a safe space in church if they want it.

The OTN website now offers information to the whole of society, giving any interested party (welcoming, curious, cautious or currently hostile) a chance to understand LGBTQIA+ people, a clear picture of what 'unsafe' means, and encouragement to engage with OTN to prevent it.

Achievements against objectives set

In March 2022 trustees set objectives to:

- **Create a financially sustainable charity**

2022 has been the busiest year in OTN's history, with substantial growth, not yet matched by the resources to sustain it for the longer term. OTN has worked hard to grow contributions from individuals, the communities OTN supports, and a more diverse range of funders. The impact of this is beginning to show in 2023.

- **Support Open Table communities to offer welcome, inclusion, affirmation and empowerment for LGBTQIA+ people**

Following a pilot of a new model of consultation with churches seeking to host an Open Table community in 2021, we offered this to 18 churches in 2022, including more than 350 people in conversations around [how to create a community](#) that genuinely invites belonging and full participation for its members.

We offered hospitality training to 14 volunteers from across the network to equip them with resources so that they can create spaces that grow their members and communities and fulfil OTN's vision, mission and values. This was a pilot of a programme of training we will develop over the next three years to 2025.

We also hosted our first in-person national gathering since 2017, on the theme [More Than Welcome](#). 50 people attended.

- **Grow the spread and size of the network**

In March 2022 OTN trustees set the target of supporting five new communities in 2022. The actual total was 10, in part due to the slower growth that we saw during the pandemic (4 new communities in 2020-21) but also due to the higher profile OTN has since funding a full-time Coordinator in 2020 and becoming a charity in 2021.

Several new communities in 2022 were in areas where we had limited or no engagement, particularly in the South East and South West of England.

International enquiries: These have grown substantially in 2022. We have not previously recorded data for these as the number was so small, and we have had a limited capacity to respond. In 2022 there were 24 enquiries, peaking at 4 a month. Three were from Scotland, and one from Northern Ireland. As a charity registered in England and Wales, we currently do not have a presence there. The other 20 were from: Australia, Bulgaria, China, India, Irish Republic (2), Jordan, Kenya (2), Liberia, Nigeria, Malta, Sudan, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda (2), USA, and Zimbabwe. One of our trustees, who is experienced in international development, has responded to this rising trend by offering online support and signposting to local allies.

We grew our online engagement in these ways:

- **Website:** Average monthly visits = 3,074 (52% increase on 2021).
- **Facebook:** Average monthly page reach = 6254 (37% increase on 2021).
- **Instagram:** Average monthly page reach = 447 (16% increase on 2021).
- **MailChimp:** Average monthly of people who received and opened our e-news rose from 358 to 506 (41% increase).

We also saw a decrease in engagement:

- **Twitter:** Average monthly tweet impressions fell from 612,800 to 468,900 (24% decrease). This partly reflects a wider trend away from this platform.
- **YouTube:** Average monthly views fell from 824 to 782 (5% decrease) as OTN published less video content and focussed more on in-person engagement, e.g. we did not host any webinars which were popular in 2021.

- **Influence the church to think differently about LGBTQIA+ Christians**

OTN achieved this by working with:

- [four other LGBT+ Christian organisations](#) to endorse the educational charity Inclusive Church which works with churches of different traditions to explore ways in which they may become more inclusive for everyone.
- [two other LGBT+ affirming charities](#) to promote an online consultation about experiences of online church and in-person church gatherings.
- eight other LGBT+ affirming groups to promote an [LGBT+ Christians Safeguarding Survey](#)
- [12 other LGBT+ affirming partners](#) to write a letter to the UK Government supporting a complete ban on 'conversion therapy'.
- eight other secular and Christian community organisations to host [an event for International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia](#).
- a theatre writer/director to sponsor a performance addressing LGBT+ themes including 'conversion therapy'.
- [four other LGBT+ affirming Christian communities](#) to enable inclusive Christmas celebrations across England & Wales.

By sharing resources:

- [a glossary](#) of LGBTQIA+ and Christian terms
- an updated list of [inclusive language resources for churches](#)
- [our impact](#): A summary of our 2021 independent research report into the need for Open Table communities
- research from other sources on the [evidence of need](#) for LGBTQIA+ people in church and the wider community
- details of [how to invite a visiting speaker](#)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - OTN publicity with organisations supporting young people, students in higher education, and older people. <i>By delivering presentations / sermons / training / retreats for:</i> - LGBT+ History Month events in a museum, a school and a Christian charity - the senior management team of a Church of England Diocese - an independent school for Pride Month - two online conferences for Christian charities - trainee spiritual directors - workplace chaplains - churches wanting to consider how to be more affirming for LGBTQIA+ people - a Catholic spirituality centre. <p><i>And by taking part in:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - podcasts, media interviews, an exhibition, and other in-person and online events.
<p>Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set</p>	<p>OTN's income has come from grants and donations.</p> <p><i>In 2022 OTN received two grants:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$10,000 (c. £7500) from the Lenovo Foundation to support the delivery of hospitality training for OTN local volunteers, and national event for OTN anniversary in June. • £7,100 from Awards For All, for the same events. The Awards For All grant was restricted to these purposes, while the Lenovo funds were not, so they supported the cost of development work to deliver these events. <p><i>OTN also received one-off and regular donations from several supporters.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donations: <p>By the end of 2022, OTN received £242 a month from 13 regular donors. We aim to increase the number of regular donations significantly in 2023, to increase OTN's financial security to train potential 'host' churches to welcome LGBTQIA+ people so they can belong as themselves. These regular donations, plus one-off donations, raised more than £5,000.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundraising: <p>In 2022 we began more actively to enable Open Table community members and the wider public to fundraise for OTN. These initiatives included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - two members running a half-marathon - three people creating Facebook birthday fundraisers - promoting donations via the PayPal Giving Fund, through which OTN receives 100% of donations - promoting donations via OTN's new permanent Crowdfunder charity profile, which supports one-off and monthly donations and fundraising activities, minus a card transaction fee. - increasing engagement with online shopping

	<p>schemes: AmazonSmile which donated 0.5% of the net purchase price of eligible purchases, and easyfundraising, through which more than 7,000 online retailers donate between 0.5% and 10% per purchase. AmazonSmile closed in early 2023.</p> <p>- crowdfunding during Advent and Christmas, which raised £2,528 in pledges. After deduction of card transaction fees and VAT OTN received £2450.62. A further £814.65 was donated by cheque or other online payments, bringing the final total to £3265.27. As the crowdfunder closed on 6th January 2023, this amount is recorded in our 2023 accounts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker & training fees: OTN has seen an increase in requests to provide a speaker or trainer on LGBTQIA+ and faith issues. Where possible, OTN requests a fee or honorarium and travel expenses to support this important outreach. • Contributions to travel expenses: Not every local community has the means to pay expenses for OTN’s Coordinator or an OTN trustee to visit. From those that do, OTN has requested a contribution to these costs. As the Network grows, these costs are increasing, so in 2023 we are seeking to manage this in two ways – by fundraising specifically for this, and by enabling local volunteers to become regional coordinators, as the first point of contact with the Open Table Network and a source of local peer support. • Sale of merchandise: In 2022 a small income came from the sale of t-shirts and mugs in several local communities. This has the potential to be scaled up nationally in 2023.
Other	<p>Community leaders’ / volunteers’ feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘what we are finding is that many of our own people who have links to the LGBT+ community are using [Open Table] to celebrate with each other, and those who are regulars but not members often attend other churches (and are sometimes out and sometimes not) but come to be out at Open Table in a place of celebration and acceptance’. • ‘how wonderful it has been to see folk step forward to help, to give their views / opinions on the way forward’. • ‘we regularly get visitors who want to come and see what we do. The feedback we get from these visitors is “it really is come as you are”, and that there’s a genuine sense of welcome.’ • ‘The space of Open Table has been refreshing people, for some it is their only church space often due to having been excluded in the past because of their sexuality or gender identity, some are engaged with church but not able to fully express themselves in those other spaces, while others are active in an

inclusive church but nevertheless being able to gather and worship in an LGBT+ majority setting is still important. It has been a great source of joy.'

- 'just being a visible welcoming Church helps people to see they have somewhere to go if and when they need us'.
- 'Being a part of Open Table gives people the added protection and security of knowing what they are walking into. Being part of the network has also given us training opportunities, support and the chance to meet, and learn from each other, as different communities come together.'
- 'Joining the network meant that we were able to draw on others' expertise at every stage, for example by observing how another community worked; by hearing and learning from the stories of more established communities; and by being challenged, after we had been going for a year, to set up a regular social event in addition to the monthly services, as other communities have done.'
- 'Being part of the Open Table community has connected us with other congregations and churches that host Open Table where we can share ideas, resources and support one another'.
- 'hosting Open Table has given our families the message that their loved one are completely accepted and celebrated rather than just tolerated or intentionally overlooked. This has been incredibly healing for the grandparents, parents, siblings and children of our LGBTQ folk'.

Community members' feedback:

- 'Life saving & life changing'.
- 'Open Table has welcomed me, and reignited my faith, and been a significant part of pandemic isolation to connect with others'.
- 'Sharing with people who have walked similar pathways is richly affirming.'
- 'there is a nationwide movement calling us out of the shadows - we are not alone'.
- 'A wonderful sense of "family" and a joy in belonging to a growing network of folk relieved to have found a safe, spiritual space.'
- 'the only community where I don't have racism'.
- 'Haven't been in a church so warm & alive in years... I had a little cry coz there were maybe 150 queer folk in church... coming exactly as they are. And being accepted!'
- 'The reconnection with God helps me with my mental health. I am a happier person.'
- 'Thank you for all you have done and will do to help make known God's love for all in the founding of wonderful, welcoming and diverse communities.'

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Every single one of us is a delight to God (not 'a disgust' as I was taught in my teens).' • 'there is zero ambiguity and 100% welcoming of me as a whole, loved child of God'. • 'This is the only worship space where I feel totally safe to be myself without needing to check first. Long may it continue to grow.'
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Contacts in 2022

In 2022 OTN had 610,234 contacts, online and in-person. The monthly average was 50,853 contacts. 14,910 were new contacts, an average of 1,243 per month.

Contact source	2022 total	2021 total	% +/-	2022 monthly average contacts	2022 new contacts	2022 monthly average new contacts
Webinars	0	393	-100	0	0	0
Youtube	9,387	9,886	-5	782	76	6
Website	36,892	24,266	+52	3,074	10,561	880
Facebook	75,053	54,739	+37	6,254	273	23
Instagram	5,358	4,597	+17	447	443	37
Twitter	468,900	612,800	-23	39,075	549	46
LinkedIn	106	187	+76	9	64	5
Mailchimp	6,077	4,298	+41	506	137	11
Email	582	259	+124	49	359	30
International	24	0	+100	2	23	2
Communities	5,666	4,696	+21	472	500	42
Consultations	357	126	+183	30	354	30
Events	1,832	208	+781	153	1,571	131
TOTAL	610,234	716,455	-15	50,853	14,910	1,243

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	As a small emerging charity, we have achieved much with few resources, as detailed above. We believe that we are punching above our weight in achieving so much. Finding funding has been a priority. Costs are managed carefully but activity is restricted by lack of funds We continue to seek extra funding to develop the work further. During 2022 the charity received an interest-free loan of £1,500 from one of the trustees to help cashflow, which will be repaid in 2023.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	At the current levels of income it is difficult to build reserves. Ideally we would keep up to six months' worth of expenditure in reserve. This would enable us to continue operating during times when income may be drying up.
Amount of reserves held	£582.55
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	The charity has struggled to obtain regular funding, which is the main reason that the reserves have dropped. However, at the time of writing in February 2023, OTN has secured a grant from the United

	<p>Reformed Church Legacy Fund of £50,000 to be spread over 3 years to 2025, which will secure core activities, enable more strategic development and reassure prospective new funders of OTN's sustainability.</p>
<p>A description of the principal risks facing the charity</p>	<p>Finance: OTN has mitigated the financial risk to the charity by seeking alternative and more diverse sources of income, and careful control of credit and expenditure.</p> <p>Safeguarding: OTN was created by, and for, LGBTQIA+ people, who have too often found churches unsafe places to be. Owing to these issues of hurt and harm, we are particularly committed to protecting children and vulnerable adults within our gatherings. Read OTN's Safeguarding Statement & Policy.</p> <p>OTN has appointed two people with responsibility for safeguarding our activities. They are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OTN Co-Chair Alex Clare-Young • OTN Co-ordinator Kieran Bohan <p>Reputation: In our engagement with individuals, local communities, other organisations and the media, we seek to maintain and develop OTN's trustworthiness, competency and values. Damage to any one of these aspects of reputation would damage OTN's reputation as a whole. Safeguarding these, and keeping everyone as safe as possible in our communities, are very important to everyone connected with OTN. One of our community leaders wrote in 2022:</p> <p>'Open Table is a quality mark. It says clearly that there are LGBTQ people active and in leadership in the Church. It's shorthand for "yes, you really are welcome" for a whole range of questions that most LGBTQ people would ask before they stepped over a threshold of a church... Open Table already has a trusted reputation that would take a church many years to build on its own. That means you are starting years ahead of what you could do by yourself to prove you are trustworthy.'</p> <p>There's an established process for joining the Open Table Network, which is built on loving principles of safety in belonging. Part of that safety and belonging is consistency. It is really important that people searching for understanding and support come to a place that has agreed, formally, to do create a regular, predictable welcoming space - and has learned how to offer that consistently and practically. We ask all those who enquire about joining OTN NOT to use the Open Table name and logo, until they have completed the process.</p>

Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document	Constitution
How is the charity constituted?	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	<p>Trustees have been recruited by nomination from within the membership and leadership of Open Table communities, and from stakeholders with whom we have worked in partnership. All persons appointed or re-appointed as charity trustees shall be asked, on being invited to accept appointment, to indicate in writing whether they identify as Christian and whether they accept the following Statement of Faith. No appointment shall have effect if the person appointed does not accept the Statement of Faith. No appointment shall have effect if it would bring the proportion of charity trustees not identifying as Christian at the time of last appointment to greater than one-third.</p> <p>The Statement of Faith is as follows:</p> <p>‘The Open Table Network is a Christian organisation, but not a church. Its work is built on a common profession of the faith of Jesus Christ but not confined to the detailed tenets of any one denomination. It believes human lives, identities and relationships are precious gifts from God, which all are called to live out with integrity. Its goal is to build a community where this is evident, and which equips others to go out and do the same. It seeks to serve members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, questioning, intersex and asexual communities and the wider Church by sharing the Christian gospel and promoting invitation, understanding, acceptance and reconciliation between them. It values and supports the practice of Christian common worship, specifically the celebration of Holy Communion, which it regards as the primary context of its welcome and outreach to lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, questioning, intersex and asexual individuals.’</p>

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	The Open Table Network
Other names the charity uses	Open Table Network, Open Table, OTN
Registered charity number	1193868
Charity’s principal address	St Bride's Church, Percy Street, Liverpool, L8 7LT, UK

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Term of office (from 19/03/21 unless otherwise stated)
Ms Sarah Louise Hobbs	Co-Chair	4 years
Revd Dr Alex Scott Clare-Young	Co-Chair	3 years
Revd Julian Francis Holywell	Trustee	3 years (resigned 11/06/22)
Revd Dr Kendell Augustine Tanner-Ihm	Trustee	3 years
Ms Rebekah Greenbank	Trustee	3 years (from 10/03/2022)
Revd Anne Yvonne Bennett	Trustee	2 years
Revd Lucy Elizabeth Rowan Berry	Trustee	2 years
Mr Neil Gordon Rees	Trustee	2 years

Names and addresses of advisers

Type of adviser Name Address

Treasurer	Mr Jeff Prescott	c/o St Bride's Church, Percy Street, Liverpool L8 7LT
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members

Co-ordinator	Mr Kieran Bohan	c/o St Bride's Church, Percy Street, Liverpool L8 7LT
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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)  

Full name(s) Alex Clare-Young Sarah Hobbs

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc) Co-Chair Co-Chair

Date 02/03/2023

OPEN TABLE NETWORK**SUMMARY RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS 2023**

	<u>Year ending 31/12/2022</u>		<u>Year ending 31/12/2021</u>	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Donations		5,210.23		15,075.21
Grants		14,850.01		11,057.00
Other		<u>7,403.91</u>		<u>1,002.34</u>
Total		<u>27,464.15</u>		<u>27,134.55</u>
Payments				
Charitable expenditure	<u>35,328.87</u>		<u>32,012.92</u>	
		35,328.87		32,012.92
Surplus / Deficit		<u>-7,864.72</u>		<u>-4,878.37</u>
Reserves brought forward		8,447.27		13,325.64
Reserves carried forward		<u>582.55</u>		<u>8,447.27</u>

The notes to these accounts form part of them and include detailed receipts and payments

All operations are classed as ongoing operations.

OPEN TABLE NETWORK STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**As at 31 December 2022**

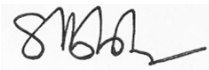
	£
Assets:	
Cash at Co-Op Bank	<u>582.55</u>
Represented by :	
General Fund (unrestricted)	<u>582.55</u>

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities which are set out above

Approved by the trustees on 2 March 2023 .

Signed on their behalf by:



Sarah Hobbs
Co-Chair

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounts have been prepared under the "Receipts and Payments" basis as prescribed by the Charity Commission.

There has been no change to the methods of accounting since last year. There has been no change to last year's figures, although the presentation has changed with different headings.

2 PAYMENTS TO TRUSTEES

No trustees received remuneration, or payment for goods or services during the year

3 DETAILED RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

See next page

OPEN TABLE NETWORK

Note 3

DETAILED RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS 2023

	<u>Year ending 31/12/2022</u>		<u>Year ending 31/12/2021</u>	
	Unrestricted Funds		Unrestricted Funds	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Donations		5,210.23		15,075.21
Fundraising		1,517.83		
Grants		14,850.01		11,057.00
Speaker & training fees		1,590.00		
Contributions to travel expenses		2,034.16		
T-Shirts		491.50		
Other		1,770.42		1,002.34
Total		<u>27,464.15</u>		<u>27,134.55</u>
Payments				
Development Work	27,300.00		27,300.00	
Travel	2,522.02		989.93	
Volunteers	10.00			
Training	797.96			
National Gathering	3,069.53			
Phone / IT related	455.35		682.44	
Subscriptions	157.00		25.00	
Consultants			1,750.00	
T-Shirts	410.58			
Pride	353.06			
Other	253.37		1,265.55	
Total		<u>35,328.87</u>		<u>32,012.92</u>
Surplus / Deficit in Month		<u>-7,864.72</u>		<u>-4,878.37</u>
Reserves brought Forward		8,447.27		13,325.64
Reserves carried forward		<u>582.55</u>		<u>8,447.27</u>

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT, TO THE TRUSTEES OF OPEN TABLE NETWORK,
(CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1193868)**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December, 2022 which are set out on pages 1 to 4

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;

to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act;

and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements: to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

K CROOPER

15 February 2023