

Bishopric of Public Ecumenical and Social Services UK

(A company limited by guarantee)

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended

31 December 2020

BISHOPRIC OF PUBLIC ECUMENICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES UK

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

TRUSTEES

Dr I H Tadros
M A Shahid
G M Girgis

SECRETARY

Dr I H Tadros

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

Memorandum and articles of association

REGISTERED OFFICE

6th Floor
25 Farringdon Street
London
EC4A 4AB

BUSINESS ADDRESS

29 Middle Field
London
NW8 6ND

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

RSM UK Tax and Accounting Limited
STC House
7 Elmfield Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 1LT

BISHOPRIC OF PUBLIC ECUMENICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES UK

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Bishopric of Public Ecumenical and Social Services UK is constituted by its Memorandum and Articles of Association, dated 3 October 2002 and is a registered charity, No. 1005852.

Bishopric of Public Ecumenical and Social Services UK commonly known as Bless UK is a registered private company, No. 02526826. The registered office address is: 6th Floor, 25 Farringdon Street, London, EC4A 4AB. The business address of the company as registered with the Charities Commission is 29 Middle Field, London, NW8 6ND.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (January 2019).

Trustees

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year were:

Dr I H Tadros
G Y Mansi (resigned as director and trustee on 5 May 2021)
R A Demian (resigned as director and trustee on 5 May 2021)
M A Shahid
G M Girgis

The custodians of the charity were:

Bishop Youanis
Bishop Serapion

None of the Trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the Trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of winding up.

The Trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to any significant risks.

Objectives and activities

The charity's objectives continued to be that of the advancement of the Christian religion in accordance with the tenets and doctrines of the Coptic Orthodox Church, for the advancement of education and for the relief of poverty in the United Kingdom and overseas.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance in relation to Public Benefit issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The Trustees are of the opinion that it has fully complied with all such guidance.

Achievements and performance

Despite the difficulties and challenges faced in 2020, the charity managed to obtain overall good results.

The congregation of the Coptic community in UK faced huge demands for other charitable causes inside and outside UK. In spite of that, donations collected in the year were £96,436 compared with £118,749 in 2019.

This enabled the charity to give the same level of grants in 2020 of £100,000 (2019: £100,000) to its related charity with common trustees based in Egypt so that it could maintain the same level of services provided as those provided in 2019. In addition, the charity gave out grants of £18,000 (2019: £18,000) to assist with funds towards marriages in the event that lack of such funds is causing hardship.

BISHOPRIC OF PUBLIC ECUMENICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES UK

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The charity has made 5 loans (with no interest) in the year ended 31 December 2020 totalling £23,000 (2019: £25,000) to support families with medical emergencies. At the year end, there is an amount of £15,000 (2019: £nil) due from Bishopric of Ecumenical and Social Services Egypt. For further information see note 7.

In 2021 the charity intends to use some of the funds, kept for emergencies in the bank, to help extend services to new areas not serviced before.

The charity prides itself that running of the charity continues to be done by volunteers who are not remunerated.

Financial Review

During the year ended 31 December 2020, the charity received donations to the value of £76,583 (2019: £106,229) and gift aid refunds of £19,853 (2019: £12,520). The charity incurred direct charitable expenditure of £118,000 (2019: £118,000) and governance costs of £3,750 (2019: £4,920) giving rise to a net deficit of £25,192 (2019: £3,882).

At 31 December 2020, as shown on the Balance Sheet on page 7, the charity had unrestricted funds of £115,206 (2019: £140,398). Accordingly, the Trustees are pleased to advise that they consider the charity to have sufficient funds to meet its current and future obligations.

There is expected to be a continuing negative impact of Covid-19 on UK and global economies and charities. The Trustees believe they are taking the necessary actions to address the risks arising, and to date the charity has continued to operate effectively. Donors have maintained donations through standing order, and debtors are expected to repay all loans which were outstanding and due. Whilst donations from Sunday church gatherings have suffered since lockdowns started, it is hoped that this is only a short-term consequence of the pandemic. The charity has sufficient unrestricted reserves to meet its fixed costs for the foreseeable future, at least 12 months from the date of signing of these financial statements.

Recruitment of Trustees and training

The composition of the Charity's board of Trustees is reviewed regularly with a view to achieving a spread of expertise and age designed to facilitate the achievement of the Charity's objectives. The Trustees keep up to date on their responsibilities by various means, such as reviewing the Charity Commission website, reading relevant periodicals and professional advice.

Grant making policy

The Trustees have complete discretion to pay any grants which fall within the charity's objectives. The Trustees meet annually to discuss and approve existing and new grants. They also communicate with each other at other times for this purpose should the need arise.

Key management personnel remuneration

The Trustees consider the board of Trustees as comprising the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling the charity and running and operating the charity on a day to day basis. All Trustees give of their time freely and no trustee remuneration or reimbursement of expenses was paid in the year.

Reserves policy

The reserves at present amount to slightly less than the annual expenditure, the majority of which comprises discretionary grants. The Trustees aim, if possible, to increase the reserves to provide a cushion against a future reduction in donations. The free reserves at the year end amounted to £115,206 (2019: £140,398).

BISHOPRIC OF PUBLIC ECUMENICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES UK

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Risk factors

The charity is dependent on significant donations in order to continue making grants. Thus the major risk to the charity's ability to achieve its primary aims is failure to receive those donations. The Trustees mitigate this risk by holding a level of reserves approximately in line with average annual expenditure.

Statement of responsibilities

The Trustees, who are also the directors of Bishopric of Public Ecumenical and Social Services UK for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees Report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs and the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees 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 accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. 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.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

On behalf of the board of Trustees

George Girgis

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G M Girgis

Trustee

Dated: 08.09.2021
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BISHOPRIC OF PUBLIC ECUMENICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES UK

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Bishopric of Public Ecumenical and Social Services UK ('the company') for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 6 to 14.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the 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.

An independent examination does not involve gathering all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently does not cover all the matters that an auditor considers in giving their opinion on the accounts. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide. Consequently, I express no opinion as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and my report is limited to those specific matters set out in the independent examiner's statement.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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 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: Accounting and Reporting by Charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and 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.

Helen Hunt FCA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
ON BEHALF OF RSM UK TAX AND ACCOUNTING LIMITED
Chartered Accountants
STC House
7 Elmfield Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 1LT
Date:

BISHOPRIC OF PUBLIC ECUMENICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES UK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	Total Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Total Unrestricted Funds 2019 £
INCOME:			
Donations and legacies	2	96,436	118,749
Investment income	3	122	289
TOTAL INCOME		<u>96,558</u>	<u>119,038</u>
EXPENDITURE:			
Charitable activities	4	<u>(121,750)</u>	<u>(122,920)</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>(121,750)</u>	<u>(122,920)</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>(25,192)</u>	<u>(3,882)</u>
Reconciliation of funds:			
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	9	<u>140,398</u>	<u>144,280</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	9	<u>115,206</u>	<u>140,398</u>

There are no other gains or losses other than those dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The net movement in funds for the year arise from the charity's continuing operations.

**BISHOPRIC OF PUBLIC ECUMENICAL AND SOCIAL
SERVICES UK**
BALANCE SHEET
31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	22,070	-
Cash at bank and on hand		96,736	144,298
Total current assets		<u>118,806</u>	<u>144,298</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(3,600)	(3,900)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>115,206</u>	<u>140,398</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>115,206</u></u>	<u><u>140,398</u></u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds	9	115,206	140,398
TOTAL FUNDS		<u><u>115,206</u></u>	<u><u>140,398</u></u>

The Trustees are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the year by virtue of section 477, and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476 of the Act.

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (i) ensuring that the company keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and
- (ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on

Signed on behalf of the Trustees by:

George Girgis

G M Girgis
Trustee

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BISHOPRIC OF PUBLIC ECUMENICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES UK

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

31 December 2020

		2020	2019
		£	£
Operating activities			
Net (used in) / cash generated from operating activities	12	(47,684)	7,729
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Investing activities			
Interest received		122	289
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net cash generated from investing activities		122	289
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net (decrease) /increase in cash and cash equivalents		(47,562)	8,018
Cash and cash equivalents at start of the reporting period		144,298	136,280
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the reporting period		96,736	144,298
		<hr/>	<hr/>

BISHOPRIC OF PUBLIC ECUMENICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES UK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2020

1 Accounting policies

(a) Company information

Bishopric of Public Ecumenical and Social Services UK is a private company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom and registered in England and Wales. The registered office address is: 6th Floor, 25 Farringdon Street, London, EC4A 4AB.

(b) Basis of accounting

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)(October 2019) – (charities SORP (FRS102)) The Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

The accounts (financial statements) are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

(c) Public benefit entity

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated below. The charity is a company limited by guarantee that is domiciled in England and Wales.

(d) Going concern

The charity reported resources expended of £121,750 (2019: £122,920) for the year compared to income receivable of £96,558 (2019: £119,038) giving rise to total unrestricted funds of £115,206 (2019: £140,398) at the year end.

Since early this year, the charity has been operating in an environment affected by the COVID-19 virus crisis. The potential risks from this include disruption to donations and debtors defaulting on loan repayments. To date, the charity has been successful in managing these risks. All loans have been repaid in accordance with the relevant agreement, those outstanding at the year end are all considered to be recoverable and donations continue to be received through standing orders.

Having assessed the ongoing COVID-19 situation, the Trustees are of the view that the charity has sufficient unrestricted reserves to meet its fixed costs and it also has sufficient funds to continue to operate and make discretionary outgoing transfers of funds to its related charities in Egypt for the foreseeable future and at least until 30 September 2022. On this basis that the charity is considered to be a going concern.

(e) Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred.

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 and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource.

BISHOPRIC OF PUBLIC ECUMENICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES UK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

31 December 2020

(f) Funds

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objectives of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

(g) Debtors

Other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount.

(h) Cash

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

(i) Creditors

Creditors are recognised where 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 or estimated reliably. Creditors are recognised at their settlement amount.

(j) Income

Donation income and gift aid refunds are recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the items of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Interest receivable is recognised 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.

(k) Corporation tax

The company is a registered charity and as such its income and gains falling within Section 505 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 are exempt from corporation tax to the extent that they are applied to its charitable objectives.

(l) Grants payable

Grants payable are accounted for when approved by the Trustees. Grants are payable to a charity with common trustees that undertakes charitable activities in Egypt. These grants help the company achieve its objectives overseas. Grants are also made, at the trustees discretion, to assist with funds towards a marriage in the event that lack of such funds is causing hardship.

(m) Governance costs

Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to independent examination and legal fees and are included in expenditure on charitable activities in the SOFA.

(n) Financial instruments

The financial instruments of the charity comprise bank balances, including monies on deposit, debtors and creditors. Bank balances are accounted for at 31 December and debtors and creditors are included at amounts settled after any discounts.

BISHOPRIC OF PUBLIC ECUMENICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES UK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

31 December 2020

2 Donations and legacies

	2020	2019
	£	£
Donations receivable	76,583	106,229
Gift Aid refunded including interest	19,853	12,520
	<u>96,436</u>	<u>118,749</u>

3 Investment income

	2020	2019
	£	£
Interest receivable	122	289
	<u>122</u>	<u>289</u>

4 Analysis of charitable expenditure

	2020	2019
	£	£
Charitable activities:		
Grants payable	118,000	118,000
Governance costs – see note 5	3,750	3,870
TOTAL	<u>121,750</u>	<u>122,920</u>

Grants payable in both 2020 and 2019 are paid to an overseas charity, Bishopric of Ecumenical and Social Services Egypt, which has common trustees and operates in Egypt. In addition, in 2020 grants were made to assist with funds towards marriages in the event that the lack of such funds is causing hardship. No support costs are recognised within the grants payable in either year.

BISHOPRIC OF PUBLIC ECUMENICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES UK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

31 December 2020

5 Governance costs

Included in expenditure on charitable activities is:

	2020 £	2019 £
Independent examination fees	1,800	1,950
Accountancy fees	1,860	2,850
Bank charges	90	120
	<u>3,750</u>	<u>4,920</u>

6 Employee and trustee information

The average monthly number of persons (including trustees) employed by the company during the year was 5 (2019 – 5).

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during either the year or the previous period.

The Trustees are the key management of the charity and no remuneration or reimbursed expenses was paid to them.

7 Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Other debtors	15,000	-
Accrued income	7,070	-
	<u>22,070</u>	<u>-</u>

Other debtors represent loans made in 2020 to families in line with the charitable objects to provide support in medical emergencies. The loans are repayable within a year.

8 Analysis of current liabilities Creditors under 1 year

	2020 £	2019 £
Accruals	<u>3,600</u>	<u>3,900</u>

BISHOPRIC OF PUBLIC ECUMENICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES UK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

31 December 2020

9 Movement in fund

	At 1 January 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 December 2020 £
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	140,398	96,558	(121,750)	115,206
Total funds	<u>140,398</u>	<u>96,558</u>	<u>(121,750)</u>	<u>115,206</u>

	At 1 January 2019 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	At 31 December 2019 £
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	144,280	119,038	(122,920)	140,398
Total funds	<u>144,280</u>	<u>119,038</u>	<u>(122,920)</u>	<u>140,398</u>

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objectives of the charity without further specified purpose.

10 Control

Bishopric of Public Ecumenical and Social Services UK is not controlled by any one individual or group of individuals.

11 Related party transactions

During the year the charity paid grants to a charity with common trustees that operates in Egypt that totalled £100,000 (2019: £100,000). The related charity, Bishopric of Ecumenical and Social Services Egypt is related through having common trustees that are able to exert control over the operations of the charity. Donations were received from the trustees during the year totalling £2,100 (2019: £450).

BISHOPRIC OF PUBLIC ECUMENICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES UK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

31 December 2020

12 Cash generated from operations

	2020 £	2019 £
Net (deficit) for the reporting period	(25,192)	(3,882)
(as per the statement of financial activities)		
Adjustments:		
Interest received	(122)	(289)
(Increase)/ Decrease in debtors	(22,070)	11,000
(Decrease) /Increase in creditors	(300)	900
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net cash (used in) / generated from operating activities	(47,684)	7,729
	<hr/>	<hr/>