



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 01 01 2024

To: 31 12 2024

Charity name: METRO CHRISTIAN CENTRE

Charity registration number: 1052533

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The object of the charity is the advancement of the Christian religion by the proclamation and the furtherance of the Gospel of God.
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.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>There is one Sunday service and a prayer meeting each week. Along with various outreaches during the week (listed below). The Sunday programme for children, 'Kids Life', is supplemented by the Youth programmes 'SMASH' (secondary age) and 'Kingdom Life' (college age) which meet fortnightly. There is also a creche facility during the sermon.</p> <p>A Men's Group meet weekly, and regularly for food and a film when their friends outside of the church family are invited. A Ladies Group meet once a month, for a time of encouragement and support. And a general, open-to-all, mid-week discussion group takes place on the church premises every Wednesday evening.</p> <p>Trust House Bury, a charity started by Metro in 2019, continues to operate from the Building 4 days a week, serving those of low income and offering support to any in physical, mental or emotional need.</p> <p>A Parent and Toddler group (named, Little Gems) takes places on Wednesday mornings during term time, serving the people of the community.</p> <p>A homework club takes place on Saturday afternoons, supporting those children whose parents do not have e English as their primary language. In addition to this, we have a drop-in session, on Wednesday afternoons, assisting those of</p>

		<p>African heritage who have sought asylum in the UK. This has been establishing by one of our African members under the banner of BRAC.</p> <p>Numerous social and charity fundraising activities are planned throughout the year. All the above are supported by a programme of evangelism, preaching, teaching and training, music ministry and a social environment catering for all ages.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees of Metro Christian Centre had due regard for the guidance issued by the CC on public benefit.

Additional information

	SORP reference	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Metro Christian Centre works closely with Trust House Charity (based on our premises), the Evangelical Alliance and Missionary Ventures.
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Metro Christian Centre holds great value to the contribution of those who volunteer on Sundays and during midweek events and activities.

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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.	Para 1.20	<p>During this past year, 2024, Metro Christian Centre has continued in its endeavour to create opportunities to serve our local community in a sustainable way. Metro Christian continues to have its doors open, through some activity, each day of the week.</p> <p>The numbers within our congregation attendance has increased over the past year.</p> <p>During the year we have continued to proclaim the gospel of, and according to, the Lord Jesus Christ at Bury and provided ministry support to several churches in the wider Manchester area.</p> <p>Trust House (started in 2019) continues to meet needs within the borough of Bury. As</p>

	<p>noted in last year's report, due to the initiative obtaining its own charity status (reg. charity: 1199709) they file their own annual report. MCC continue to be proud and supportive of the progress Trust House has made under Katie's leadership over the past five years, contributing volunteers and financial support. Trust House operates every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.</p> <p>Little Gems Parent and Toddler Group, launched in September of 2021, continues to run on a Wednesday morning, during school term times. The attendance continues to exceed our expectations, and we see many parents, grandparents, and carers, of various ethnicities attending from our local community. This space has created a wonderful opportunity for us to practically serve and get to know our community and provides a great opportunity for parents and grandparents to get to know each other.</p> <p>Under the initiative of one our African members, a homework club continues to operate on Saturday during term time. This has been established to help the number of children who live upon the Chesham fold community whose parents do not have English as a primary language. In addition to this, a drop-in service has been arranged to assist the parents directly, and others from the African community, in navigating and adjusting to the differences of British society. Due the timing of the homework club, it has proven difficult to find volunteers and the person running this is currently looking at solutions.</p> <p>Our commitment to establishing connections in our local community has included running a MacMillan Coffee afternoon in October. This has been the fourth year of running these afternoons, and we continue to see a growth in the local community's engagement and attendance.</p> <p>Additionally, with the success of the coronation party for King Charles III last year, we decided to host another community fun-day and BBQ this year, inviting the community to attend, with Halal options for our Muslim neighbours, Bouncy Castle, farm animals, and other activities, utilising the full space of our church building and the outside</p>
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	<p>car park area. Radcliffe Brass Band were also hired to provide an outdoor concert for the afternoon. We ran the day in tandem with the national 'Thank You Day' scheme—and we are thankful to the scheme in providing banners, t-shirts, and an amazing photographer to the day. Admittedly, as the King's coronation was a nationally recognised event with a lot of coverage, we were not expecting anything like the numbers we had then. However, the attendance exceeded last year, with over 460 people attending the event. Like last year, the feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and we feel we will be doing something again in 2025 to bring the local community together such a way. The photographer provided by the 'thank-you day' scheme, had these kind words to share regarding the day: 'You are all doing an amazing job, we live in a very unforgiving time, so it is so special to see a great mix of ages and cultures just all getting along and wanting to enjoy each other's company, you are all doing something very special!'</p> <p>Metro Christian Centre continues to be an active presence with our local Churches Together in Bury. Under the banner of Churches Together, our minister, Tristan, continues to co-ordinate the chaplaincy presence in the Mill Gate shopping centre in Bury Town. This work continues to go well and has furnished us with the opportunities to bless our town. As part of our outreach with Churches Together, MCC has played part in both the Walk of Witness on Good Friday and helped lead a time of Carol Singing in the Mill Gate shopping centre during the Christmas season. In addition to this, MCC was also involved in the Prayer in the Park initiative on Pentecost Sunday, which saw churches come together from around our town to worship together in Clarence Park and to pray for the town of Bury as a whole.</p> <p>This year has also seen the reprisal of MCC's involvement in some of education sectors. MCC were approached by the head teacher at Holy Trinity Primary School to see if we could support the school in delivering assemblies. Tristan now goes in on a regular basis, and our hope is that this relationship will continue to grow. Also, MCC were approached by a Bury College to organise a day visit for some of their A-Level History</p>
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	<p>students to discuss Christian worship. Tristan co-ordinated this and invited other ministers from the town to participate. The day went well and will feature again with next year's student intake.</p> <p>As part of the Evangelical Alliance, and to help develop unity within the town, Tristan Sherwin and the minister of Radcliffe Road Baptist church, Pastor Russell Philips, helped co-ordinate an EN-COURAGE evening in October, which saw people from various congregations to come together for worship and teaching. Ben Jeffries, who leads the North Area for the Evangelical Alliance, was the speaker for the evening.</p> <p>SMASH Youth programmes continue to sustain their numbers (growing, in fact), and we are also seeing the attendance of young people from other churches who do not have a youth gathering. They have enjoyed meeting with other young people at Liv-It Camp and had energetic weekends away in the Lake District.</p> <p>In partnership with St. Peters C of E Church, Bury, the initiative called 'Kingdom Life' continues. This initiative runs every other week on a Wednesday afternoon and provides a space for college-age students to discuss topics of faith together.</p> <p>Our Christmas Celebrations this year saw a good number of people attend our Christmas Concert (by Radcliffe Brass Band) and our Christmas Carol Service. The faces present during our carol service were an amalgamation of people who we have been in contact with throughout the year via Trust House, Little Gems and our events (like the MacMillan Coffee Afternoon and the Fun Day), along with families and relatives of our church congregation. As with the community BBQ, the numbers at of Christmas concert and carol service exceeded last years.</p> <p>This year, as part of exploring networks to join, MCC has also been walking alongside the Maximise Network and has been attending various events they have organised. Tristan, along with Helen Jenkinson (Elder), have also been participating in their monthly leadership meetings.</p>
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		<p>Through the agency of Trust House, the church building had the kitchen renovated. We are thankful to Trust House for this!</p> <p>Various upkeep has taken place around the building to repair leaks etc. and our annual maintenance and Health and Safety checks continue to take place. A major leak in the administration office, which caused considerable damage to the walls, has been repaired (once the good weather arrived at the end of May) and the plaster of the walls has been repaired. Due to the age of the exterior brickwork, the internal skin of the exterior wall, even after plaster repair, is still producing efflorescence—the external wall has been repointed, but it could be, due to the type of brick and longevity of exposure, that the brickwork is still saturated and will take longer to dry out. Temporarily, our administrator has been moved into another office while the wall dries out.</p> <p>We have maintained our active, regular support of missions overseas, in addition to donations to other mission fields, including a couple currently within our congregation who have established churches over in Kenya.</p> <p>Financially, the church's giving remains strong. However, it will be noted that this year's accounts report a great overspend in the expenditure. This is because of overcharges from our electric supplier that were identified and reported to them. Our supplier acknowledged the overpayment and promised a refund. We were hoping that this refund would come in prior to the filing of this year's account. Sadly, a refund of circa £19,000 arrived only afterwards. This will be reflected in next year's reporting instead (and will be mentioned again, therein).</p> <p>On a pastoral note, a good deal of the church's ministry cannot be delineated to a particular programme we run or a service slot in a week. There is much that happens in conversation and the 'ministry of presence' as people face difficult circumstances. 2024, like 2023, saw several families connected to us face loss and hardship. It is a privilege and honour to come alongside them in times of need.</p>
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		The Church operates an approved Child Protection Policy across all its children's and youth ministry based on the model provided by ThirtyOne:Eight, an advisory service endorsed by the Department of Health and the Department for Education and Skills (see www.thirtyoneeight.org for further information).
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Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The figures provided on the separate report show a considerable overspend against income. The reason for this is that we changed fuel provider part way through the year. Unfortunately they over charged us by over £19,000. We have had the overcharges refunded, but it was too late for 2024 accounts, so will show in 2025.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	£15,000 is held in reserve in case Metro Christian Centre needs to provide redundancy to staff.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£15,000
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document	Para 1.25	Trust Deed
How is the charity constituted?	Para 1.25	Trustees govern the buildings and contents, and Pastoral Leadership Team look after the congregation and visitors.
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	Para 1.25	The Trustees meet quarterly, although have met ad Hoc. The Chair of Trustees is entitled to appoint trustees in consultation with The Trustees and Pastoral Leadership Team.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Metro Christian Centre
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Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	1052533
Charity's principal address	13 Parkhills Road, Bury, BL9 9AU

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Deborah Massey	Chair		Deborah Massey (Chair)
David Molloy	Treasurer		Tristan Sherwin (Trustee & Pastoral Leader)
David Jenkinson			
Tristan Sherwin	Secretary		
Giovanni Fancellu			

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
N/A		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/A		

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

	Signature(s)	D Massey	
	Full name(s)	Deborah Massey	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair of Trustees		
	Date	14/10/2025	

Receipts and Payments Accounts

Charity Name Metro Christian Centre Bury

Charity number (if any) 1052533

For the period from (start date) 01 01 24

To (end date) 31 12 24

Section A Receipts and payments

A1 Receipts	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
Offerings & Gifts	59230	0		59230	53356
Covenant Tax rebate	10886			10886	10224
R.B.S. Account interest	409			409	562
K.B Savings Account Interest	318			318	3117
Church Hire		207		207	1266
Miscellaneous	6863			6863	3899
<i>Sub total</i>	77706	207		77913	72424
A2 Asset and investment sales, etc					
<i>Total receipts</i>	77706	207		77913	72424
A3 Payments					
Building	34629			34659	20899
Church Ministry	16433			16433	17997
Disbursements (Missions)	3722			3722	2100
Miscellaneous	509			509	370+
Dorcas Fund	154			154	200
Office	2544			2544	2984
Outreach Support	953			953	1158
Metro CC Staff	42921			42921	34924
Nest Pensions	611			611	439
<i>Sub total</i>	102476	0		102476	80331
A4 Asset and investment purchases, etc					
<i>Total payments</i>	102476	0		102476	80331
<i>Net of receipts (payments)</i>	-24562	207		-24355	73689
A5 Transfers between funds					
A6 Cash funds last year end	73689	1266		73689	79036
<i>Cash funds this year end</i>	46565	207		46565	73660

Section B

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	Details	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £
B1 Cash funds	RBS Bank accounts	16463		
	KB Savings account	29021		
	Missions account		475	
	Petty Cash	289		
	Cash in hand	317		
		<i>funds</i>	46090	475

(agree balances with receipts and payment account(s))


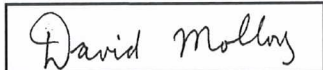
	Details	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets				

	Details	Funds to which asset	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets				

	Details	Funds to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Church and Community Centre Parkhills Road	Unrestricted		Insured value buildings & contents
				5,186,593

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities				

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print name	Date of approval
	Deb Massey	17.08.2025
	David Molloy	17.08.2025



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name METRO CHRISTIAN CENTRE

On accounts for the year ended

DECEMBER 2024 Charity no (if any) 1052533

Set out on pages

2 + 3 (remember to include the page numbers of additional pages)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: [Signature] Date: 14/2/2025

Name: LEE JANYER

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

ICPA MEMBER

Address:

LWS ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES
25 FRECKLETON DRIVE, BURY,
BL8-2JA.

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.