TORBAY UNITED 2025 REPORT

INTRODUCTION: CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Thank you for taking the time to read our end-of-year report. We are grateful for your interest and hope that this report will encourage you as we reflect on the great work that has taken place in the last 12 months.

Torbay United continues as a registered charity, bringing together our efforts as churches and partners to achieve shared ambitions. We have put in place the necessary systems to serve the people of Torbay, addressing food poverty, supporting young people in schools, and creating inspiring ecumenical events.

We have faced several challenges, but through the grace of God, we have achieved much. Our team has demonstrated the audacious hope we have in Christ, which is exemplified in this report.

From the Yum Bus from provision, school's work to the carol concert with Unleashed Theatre in collaboration with several local churches, our hearts overflow with gratitude at what the Lord has been able to accomplish in and through these collaborations and partnerships.

As we look ahead to the future, we are committed to building upon these successes, prioritising initiatives in food poverty, safety and wellbeing for young people, initiatives that further the work of God in Torbay and collaborative community events that inspire the community to live life to the fullest. You may wish to visit the website to see some of the developments, including a church directory for Torbay – www.torbayunited.org.uk.

On behalf of the trustees, I would like to express our gratitude to our team, partners, and supporters for their dedication and contributions to our shared mission.

Together, we are making a tangible difference in the lives of those we serve. We are confident that our collective efforts will continue to yield positive outcomes in the future.

Thank you again for taking the time to read our report.

With hope and joy,
Rev'd Nathan Kiyaga
Chair of Trustees

A note from some of the other Trustees

Jeremy Aspinall, one of our trustees, writes: This year Torbay United has been quietly reaching out to people in need across Torbay and giving them some vital hope. We know from the people we serve that this work is making a big difference at a time of hardship and need. Some people struggle to put food on their tables for themselves and their families. They may be working hard as single Mums in vital jobs like the NHS or care work. Others are struggling pensioners, and some are disabled. Our YUM bus gives these people a lifeline and a sense of dignity. We aim to create independence rather than dependence and a sense of agency as people contribute to the goods and food they need and get to choose what they want. Crucially, we provide emotional support and prayer ministry where

appropriate, as well as signposting to a range of other support. Lisa is at the front line of this and does a great job.
Separately, we support schools to help those children who are having a difficult time because of a range of family background issues, like parents separating, anxiety and negative self-image. We go into schools and deliver an emotional resilience programme. Again, we know this is making a big difference to the children and teachers involved. Hannah is at the front line of this work and galvanises churches and youth workers as well as delivering this work herself. Importantly, we also deliver assemblies, encourage Christian Unions and facilitate children asking big questions about life and God.
Through our work with the Safer Travel Partnership, we provide responsible adults at bus stops and transport hubs to look after the well-being and safety of children as they travel to and from school. All of this is vital work but quite often under the radar. We work with and are supported by some churches, both Church of England and ecumenically, and we work with a range of different schools across Torbay.
Our work is recognised by the Council, the police, Stagecoach and other partners like Sainsbury's that have provided us with a local grant. We speak about our work wherever the opportunity arises, including music events, churches and local civic meetings. We are very thankful for all who contribute to and support this work.
However, we struggle to gain more visibility and engagement as we really want to ramp this work up. We need more churches to be aware of us and engage with the work. We need many more volunteers. We could do with corporate sponsors. Most importantly, we need regular donations to make all of this work sustainable.
Our vision is for all people in Torbay to have a full and flourishing life, especially those on the margins who are struggling. We know that churches and schools are vital in delivering this. We urgently want more churches, individuals and volunteers to come together to bring more of God's Kingdom here in Torbay.
Mr Giles Fearnley, another of our trustees, writes: It is a great privilege to be a member of Torbay United's fantastic team, and 2025 was a particularly exciting year as we have both extended and developed our work further across the Torbay community. We have learnt so much about the needs of those we are serving through the YUM Bus, and coming alongside our schools and young people, we are continuously looking to focus our work so that we make a real difference through all we do. Our two Christmas celebrations were particular highlights of the year, as I am sure they were for everyone who attended.
None of this would be possible, of course, without the tremendous professionalism, commitment, enthusiasm and generosity of all the Torbay United team, including our many volunteers and those who support us financially. Every person, whether involved directly or indirectly, is crucial to our work and gives us the confidence to achieve much more through 2026 and beyond.

FOOD: YUM BUS PROJECT

YUM (You+Us=More) is a converted minibus that operates as a mobile social supermarket to alleviate hunger and nourish hope in our community, providing essential food resources to those in need and fostering a sense of community and

care. We are combating food insecurity and spreading hope and sharing, one meal at a time.
We link in with other local agencies and organisations to receive referrals, and advertising heavily to raise awareness has helped to grow membership. From **November 2023 to September 2025, the** YUM Bus has been visited on a total of 2394 occasions**.** In August 2025, alone, the YUM Bus supported 263 individuals, including 10 households of pension age, 61 households working with children and 21 households working with no children.
Members are typically in a monthly budget deficit of many hundreds of pounds, and YUM provides the opportunity for individuals to select goods based on unique household needs, typically paying about 50% of mainstream shop prices. Impact is reported from households of single, sometimes retired, individuals through to larger households of six with multiple children.
A renewable rolling membership, on a means-tested basis, ensures those in most need receive the support they require, and the model seeks to both enhance dignity during difficult times, as well as avoid dependency on a permanent basis.
We see the sharp end of the cost-of-living crisis playing out before our eyes. Torbay United continues to explore a range of funding opportunities for stocking the van shelves, as well as to cover costs associated with staffing and vehicle maintenance. We do not anticipate need or demand to alleviate any time soon; rather, our experience suggests the exact opposite! We have a single vehicle, operating across several locations, with a paid coordinator and volunteer driver/assistant delivering the service.

SCHOOLS: SCHOOLS SUPPORT NETWORK

Hannah, who leads our work with schools, writes:
As I reflect on the past year, I am reminded of just how far the Schools Support Network has come. When I stepped into this role in March 2025, Torbay United was already doing some fantastic work across the Bay. It has been a privilege to build upon these strong foundations and watch each area continue to grow and develop over the past year.
This year has brought significant growth and many exciting new opportunities. Through this role, I have been able to establish work in several additional schools, including St Marychurch Primary School, Ellacombe Academy, Homelands Primary School, Brixham Church of England Primary School and Torquay Academy. Alongside this, I have had the privilege of working with volunteers from different churches, investing in and equipping them so that they can confidently continue and develop this work in the future.
One of the greatest encouragements has been the relationships we have built within our schools. We are now recognised by headteachers, senior leaders, teaching staff and pupils alike. These relationships have created trust and opened doors that were not there before. One particular highlight came recently when I walked into an assembly and was greeted with a huge cheer from the children. It was a wonderful reminder that our presence in schools is making a genuine difference.

As I look back over the year, I can celebrate the positive impact this ministry is having on the culture of the schools we serve. Relationships are deepening, opportunities continue to grow, and more schools are welcoming Christians to be a positive and consistent presence within their communities.
Across primary and secondary schools, we are witnessing real momentum. Doors are opening, student-led initiatives are emerging, and schools are increasingly welcoming our presence. The hunger for faith conversations among young people is evident, and the need for emotional and pastoral support continues to grow. Partnerships between churches and organisations across Torquay, Paignton and Brixham are strengthening. There is a growing sense that God is moving across Torbay.
We step forward into the coming months with gratitude for what has already begun and expectation for what is still to come.
Across all of these schools, we are building connections with organisations such as Good News for Everyone, Youth Alpha, and Kintsugi Hope, creating new opportunities to share the gospel and support young people across Torbay. It is exciting to see the level of collaboration between churches, volunteers and youth organisations increasing, with hearts aligned in vision and purpose.

Our Safer Travel Partnership continues to bring together strategic partners from the Police, Stagecoach, schools, and other charities to ensure that young people have a safe travel experience to and from school while on public transport. The objectives set out are to promote safer travel, reduce anti-social behaviour and educate all service users of the expectations during travel.
The team deployed at different strategic locations has not only improved safety and reduced behavioural issues but also strengthened relationships with students through consistent, respectful engagement. Continued presence and communication with other partners in the partnership will help sustain these improvements throughout the years to come.

God Moving Across Torbay

Across all our areas of work, from bus stops to classrooms, from playgrounds to assemblies, we are witnessing God's hand at work throughout Torbay. Doors that were once closed are opening, and genuine partnerships are forming between churches, schools and local organisations. There is a growing sense of unity and expectation as we see young people encountering care, faith and belonging through our team's presence. The work in Torquay, Paignton and Brixham continues to build momentum, and we are excited to see what God will do in the year ahead. Our vision is to continue deepening these relationships, to empower more students and families, and to see every school across the Bay become a place where hope, faith and love can take root, leading to shoots which in time will bear fruit.

EVENTS: FESTIVE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Torbay came together on 6th December at Central Church in Torquay for a joyful afternoon of carols and inspirational stories, hosted by Torbay United. The event

brought over four hundred people together from across Torbay to celebrate the good news of Christmas and to learn about some of the great work that is already happening to help those struggling in Torbay.
There were rousing carols including Once in Royal David's City, O come all ye faithful and hark the herald angels sing, led by the Unleashed Community choir (part of the Unleashed Theatre company), a Christian organisation working with the homeless and recovery communities in Torquay. The Unleashed Theatre company also performed a drama, highlighting our need for grace and the importance of the Christ child. Some of those performing had previous experience of homelessness and addiction, and the choir and theatre performances are part of the process of recovery and building resilience and a support network. Details of the YUM Bus were shared with those present, including our work in schools.
David Wells, the guest speaker, spoke about Hope in dark places. He reflected on the anxieties that life can throw at us, but that hope in Christ can lift us to a better place and provide the perseverance to find joy despite our circumstances, reflecting the message of St. Paul to be "joyful in hope, patient in affliction and faithful in prayer". The seamless coordination and support from The Methodist Church, Good News for Everyone, Home for Good, and The Church of England played a pivotal role in the events' success. Good News for Everyone provided gospels that could be given out on the YUM bus.

The events' impact extended beyond the confines of the venue, sparking a renewed sense of purpose and mission within the community. We look forward to running a Christmas event in December 2026.

Finances
In 2025, we are delighted to report a surplus of £12,464, a significant improvement on the small loss we reported in the previous year. Our cash balances, including debtors, were £21,940 at the year-end. At 31st December, our restricted funds balance was nil.
Our reserves policy is to hold a minimum of 3 months' cover for our committed regular expenditure, which principally covers payments to our paid colleagues and for food purchases. Our reserves at 31st December 2025 would cover these commitments for around 6 months.
We could not function without the generous support of many donors together with the significant grant we receive from Torbay Council, without which the YumBus would not be able to operate.
Our healthy outturn is largely due to the timing and size of some of the grants and gifts we received in the year. We are sincerely grateful for many individuals who generously give monthly and, in 2025, donations from St Matthias Tithe Fund, Churches Together and, from businesses including Stagecoach South West, Feeding Britain, Groundworks UK (on behalf of Tesco) and Sainsbury's Good For All Community Grant have, together, enabled us to enter 2026 with a healthy cash balance.
Safeguarding

As a charity that serves communities from all walks of life, we have a duty of care to ensure that what we offer and those we partner with adhere to clear, appropriate and leading practices in safeguarding.
We are grateful to Devon County Council, who offer our DBS for our colleagues in regulated roles that require such checks.
We are equally grateful for our inhouse platform/ app that the team can use to report any concerns which may arise.
Through our safeguarding lead and the working practices we have implemented, we have been able to ensure that everyone is clear on how to recognise a concern, record and report accordingly. Our goal is to keep this response mechanism fresh in everyone's mind alongside adhering to a robust safer recruitment process for all those whose intentions are to serve under this coalition of the willing.

Governance

We are glad to welcome Rev'd Jeff Short to the trustees' body. He brings a wealth of experience as a visionary, teacher and wise pastoral counsellor to the team.
As at the filing of this report, the trustees team comprises Rev'd Nathan Kiyaga, Rev'd Jeff Short, Mr David Wilkinson, Mr Giles Fearnley and Mr Jeremy Aspinall.
Our charity number is 1201635, and our operating name remains Torbay United.
Our correspondence office is the vicarage, Locarno Avenue, TQ3 2DH.

Torbay United CIO
Charity no. 1201635
Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended
31st December 2025

					2025	***2024***
	Unrestricted		*Restricted*		*Total*	*Total*
Receipts						
Donations	27570		0		27570	33834
Gift Aid	2657		0		2657	3883
Grants	33410		28087		61497	55760
Interest	38		0		38	17
Events	197		0		197	2467
Total Receipts	*63872*		*28087*		*91959*	*95961*
Payments						
Yum Bus	1149		28087		29236	55684
Schools work	5627		0		5627	13292
Events	6383		0		6383	12375
Overheads	6546		0		6546	2647
Sub-contractors	31703		0		31703	13153
Consultants	0		0		0	0
Total Payments	*51408*		*28087*		*79495*	*97151*
Deficit/Surplus for the period	12464		0		12464	-1190
Bank balance brought forward	6250		0		6250	7440
Bank balance carried forward	18714	0	0	0	18714	6250

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December 2025

			2025	***2024***
Cash assets				
Cash at bank	18714	0	18714	6250
Debtors				
Gift aid	3226	0	3226	2657
Other assets for the Charity's use				
Minibus-Yum Bus	16000	0	16000	16000

Note 1 The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at the year end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on assets of the CIO.

Approved by the board of trustees and signed on their behalf by



Date...19th October 2026

Independent Examiner's Report to the
Trustees of Torbay United CIO **Charity no. 1201635**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Torbay United CIO for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

(1) Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
(2) The accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

I P Barrett FCA FCIE
Barretts
Chartered Accountants
22 Union Street
Newton Abbot
Devon TQ12 2JS

20th October 2026