Break the Chains CIO

(Registered charity, number 1203197)

Financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2025

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COMMUNITY ACCOUNTING

Break the Chains CIO
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 December 2025

Full name Break the Chains CIO

Organisation type Charitable incorporated organisation

Registered charity number 1203197

Principal address Woven St Margaret's Office, Aspley Lane, Nottingham, NG8 5GE

Trustees
Jonathan Portwood
Elaine Wainaina, from 01/09/2026
Revd. Colin Bourne, until 31/05/2026
Roger Woodall, until 01/10/2026
Oluwaseun Babatunde Taiwo, until 01/10/2026
Rev'd Emma Mallord, until 28/01/2025

Independent examiner
Eva Stevens, employee of Community Accounting Plus, Units 1 & 2 North West, 41 Talbot Street, Nottingham, NG1 5GL

Governance and management
The charity is operated under the rules of its constitution, CIO - Foundation adopted 23 May 2023.

The method adopted for the recruitment and appointment of new trustees is by personal approach from the trustees & founders of Break the Chains CIO.

Objectives and activities
To advance the Christian religion for the benefit of the public in accordance with the statements of faith appearing in the schedule, by:
a. The production and distribution of online media and literature on Christianity to enlighten others about the Christian religion;
b. The holding of evangelistic meetings and training to educate and enlighten the public about the Christian religion; and
c. The provision of pastoral care to members of the public through prayers and religious counselling.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit
We provide advocacy, advice and information to individuals who are in need. We also provide spiritual support, mentoring and signposting for individuals who are in need.

Break the Chains CIO

Public benefit statement
The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Summary of the main achievements during the period
Paul Ward worked part-time for Missional Youth Church Network – under the auspices of The Church Army, and part-time for Break the Chains CIO.

We began fundraising for the mentoring Project in June 2025, which continued for the whole of 2025. By the end of 2025 we had three grants awarded from The Gray Trust for £500, The Souter Charitable Trust for £2,500, and the Lady Hind Trust for £1,000, giving a total of £4,000 towards the running costs of the Mentoring Project that is due to start in the Autumn of 2026.

General
Laura spiritually directed two people regularly throughout the year and Paul also spiritually directed two people regularly during the year.

Mission Accompanier (MA) scheme in Worcestershire finished in this year with a final meeting in Feb 2025 as the Rector retired in the summer.

Missional Youth Church Network (MYCN) work continued for the whole year and finished for good in December 2025. This was the main focus of our work as we sub-contracted Paul's time through BtC.

Fundraising for Break the Chains Mentoring Project started in June 2025 and continued for the rest of the year into 2026. This meant that 3 charitable trusts gave us money by the end of 2025 as follows:

The Gray Trust - £500
Souter Charitable Trust - £2,500
Lady Hind Trust - £1,000

Paul preached at 3 churches during the year and did a talk at a youth service.

Laura led prayer ministry training at a church.

<u>January:</u>
27th Jan – 7.30pm BtC Trustees and Founders meeting.

<u>February:</u>
6th Feb – Last contact with Rector on Mission Accompaniers (MA) scheme, Worcestershire.

<u>March:</u>
Paul was invited to preach at Christ Church Chilwell on Sunday 23rd March.

Break the Chains CIO

April:
Easter Fair 2025 was on Saturday 12th April from 11am till 3pm raising £ 265.00 for Break the Chains CIO.

May:
Trustees and Founders meeting on 12th May at 7.30pm on Zoom.

June:
Paul went on an Advanced Effective Fundraising course on 12th June. After this he started fundraising for Break the Chains Mentoring Project.

September:
Trustees and founders meeting on 24th September at 7.30pm on Zoom.

November:
Friday 28th November and Saturday 29th November were The Advent Fayre at Derek and Carolyn Smith's house raising £566.67 for Break the Chains CIO.

Financial review
The financial position of Break the Chains CIO, at the close of 2025, was somewhat uncertain. This was primarily due to the late payment of a couple of invoices, which should have been paid to the charity before the year-end, but ended up coming in during January 2026.

The regular donations to Break the Chains, alongside the Gift-Aid recovery amounts, are of a sufficient level to cover the normal running costs of the organisation. The three grants totalling £4,000 that we received are designated for the upcoming "Mentoring Project", that will begin towards the end of 2026. While this is not the total amount that we have budgeted for the running costs of the first year of the project, we are hopeful of raising the remainder once the project has been launched.

The charity's policy on reserves
The Trustees are working to build and maintain free financial reserves equivalent to three months' average expenditure. We currently hold about 1 month's expenses and are working to increase this over the next 3 years.

Financial risks
Competition for grant funding has increased with more organisations chasing smaller grants. Our donor base is getting older with no new younger donors coming in.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed  Date 30/10/2026
Jonathan Portwood, Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Break the Chains CIO for the year ended 31 December 2025

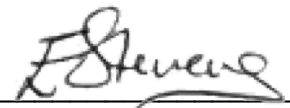
I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Break the Chains CIO (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the trustees of the charity 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 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.

Signed  Date 30/10/2026
Eva Stevens BSc, CPFA
Employee of Community Accounting Plus

Break the Chains CIO
Receipts & payments account
for the year ended 31 December 2025

2024 Total Funds £		Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	*2025* Total Funds £
	Receipts				
17062	Grants & donations	2	13246	4000	17246
6283	Services		7335	-	7335
59	Bank interest		20	-	20
23404	**Total receipts**		**20601**	**4000**	**24601**
	Payments				
18	Bank charges		18	-	18
918	Grant repayment		-	-	-
114	Hospitality		5	-	5
834	Insurance		885	-	885
648	Legal & professional fees		972	-	972
35	Memberships		-	-	-
91	Networking		-	-	-
416	Payroll fees		452	-	452
150	Safeguarding		118	-	118
975	Staff travel & expenses		862	-	862
65	Stationery, printing & office supplies		61	-	61
-	Set up costs		-	400	400
203	Telephone		209	-	209
17346	Wages, tax & NI		16736	250	16986
1007	Website & IT		676	-	676
-	Charitable donations		171	-	171
-	Events		130	-	130
-	Sundry payments		47	-	47
22820	**Total payments**		**21342**	**650**	**21992**
584	**Net receipts/(payments)**		(741)	3350	2609
216	Cash funds at start of this period		800	-	800
800	**Cash funds at end of this period**		**59**	**3350**	**3409**

Break the Chains CIO
Statement of assets and liabilities
at 31 December 2025

2024			*2025*
£	**Cash assets**	**Note**	**£**
800	Bank accounts		3409
800			**3409**
	Other monetary assets		
479	Debtors	**4**	1242
-	Prepayments - Zoom subscription		34
479			**1276**
	Assets retained for the charity's own use		
	General equipment.		
	Liabilities		
(705)	Creditors	**5**	(726)
(705)			**(726)**

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed _____ Date 30/10/2026

Jonathan Portwood, Trustee

Break the Chains CIO
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2025

1. Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Usually, cash received and cash spent will include transactions through bank accounts and cash in hand.

2. Grants & donations

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Souter Charitable Trust	-	2500	2500
The Gray Trust	-	500	500
Lady Hind Trust	-	1000	1000
HMRC Gift Aid	2184	-	2184
Individual donations	11062	-	11062
	13246	**4000**	**17246**

3. Funds analysis

	Opening balance	Receipts	(Payments)	Closing balance
	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds				
Mentoring Project Funds	-	4000	(650)	3350
	-	**4000**	**(650)**	**3350**
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	800	20601	(21342)	59
	800	**20601**	**(21342)**	**59**

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Mentoring Project: Restricted funding for providing support to individuals experiencing mental health challenges across Nottingham.

4. Debtors

	£
Church Army	863
HMRC Employment allowance	379
	1242

5. Creditors

	£
Independent examination fee	726
	726

6. Trustees' remuneration

Trustees received no expenses, remuneration or benefits in this period.

7. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in this period.

8. Glossary of terms

Creditors: These are amounts owed by the charity, but not paid during the accounting period.

Debtors: These are amounts owed to the charity, but not received in the accounting period.

Prepayments: These are services that the charity has paid for in advance, but not used during the accounting period.

Restricted funds: These are funds given to the charity, subject to specific restrictions set by the donor, but still within the general objects of the charity.