

GREATER MANCHESTER CHURCHES TOGETHER
REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024



GREATER MANCHESTER CHURCHES TOGETHER

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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**CHARITY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

TRUSTEES: Bishop Mark Davies
Rev'd Dr Andrew J Lunn (resigned 31 July 2024)
Bishop John Arnold
Monsignor Paul Smith
Rev'd Glayne Worgan
Rev Osiebhulimen Osoba Otaigbe
Rev'd Mike Read
Rev'd Kennedy Gondongwe (appointed 25 June 2024)

CORRESPONDENT ADDRESS: Cathedral Centre
3 Ford Street
Salford
M3 6DP

REGISTERED NUMBER: 503258 (England and Wales)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER: Nicola Law BSc FCA
34 Inveraray Avenue
Blackrod
Greater Manchester
BL6 5UQ

BANKERS: Unity Trust Bank Plc
Nine Brindleyplace
Birmingham
B1 2HB

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The trustees present their report with the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Accounts

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The accounts have been prepared under the accrual basis of accounting.

Objects and activities

The objectives and aims of Greater Manchester Churches Together (the Charity) are the advancement of the Christian religion, the relief of poverty and advancement of education within the principal area of activity of the Greater Manchester Metropolitan County.

The Charity continues to sustain and support ecumenical developments at local, parish, borough and regional levels through ongoing involvement in local ecumenical partnerships, including Churches Together Groups and meetings with Church Leaders. The Charity actively promotes the coming together of Christian religious organisations within Greater Manchester and by improved understanding and greater cooperation the aim is to help those organisations and their members in their day to day activities and longer term development.

Through the above objectives and activities the Trustees consider that they have complied with their duty under S17 of the Charities Act 2011 and they confirm that they have also complied with the requirements of S4 of that Act to have regard to public benefit as published by the Charity Commission.

Achievements and performance

The Trustees met on six occasions during 2024, including the Annual Assembly which includes the Annual General Meeting with the Presentation of the Accounts and the election of a Chair. We decided to have a hybrid pattern of meetings going forward – some on line and some in person.

A great deal of thought was given over the year about the future of GMCT and our direction of travel. Trustees received the resignation of our Facilitator and she left our employment at the close of the year. We expressed our thanks for her work and wish her well in all that the future holds for her.

Trustees were delighted that the Reverend Alan Kennedy accepted our offer to take up the post of Facilitator for GMCT and we look forward with working well with Alan in re-establishing the presence of GMCT across the County and in our work with the Presidents' Group and the Denominational Ecumenical Officers.

We finished the year confident that we had made some important and good decision that will energise our work going forward into 2025 and beyond.

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Financial review

The results for the year under review are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 6.

The Trustees prepared a budget in 2023 for the ensuing year to 31 December 2024 and the results are broadly inline therewith.

Subscriptions from member denominations of £27,035 for 2024 were collected (2023: £23,385) with fees for members increasing by £5 per Parish (14% on average) to catch up with cost inflation after several years of no increase

The Charity's reserves as at 31 December 2024 were £35,324 (2023: £33,204) and these are considered sufficient to ensure the Charity's continuing activities.

The Charity's detailed financial position as at 31 December 2024 is set out in the Balance Sheet on page 5.

Reserves Policy

It is not the intention of the GMCT to accumulate undesignated reserves. Monies given to GMCT are to be used for the fulfilment of our stated purpose. GMCT will seek to hold in its general reserves at least 50% of its likely annual expenditure.

There was a higher than expected surplus in the year due to staffing vacancies.

Structure, governance and management

The Charity was governed by an original constitution adopted on 28 September 1973. This was replaced by a further constitution (the 2012 Constitution) which was adopted by the Charity's Annual Assembly (AGM) on 30 October 2012. The 2012 Constitution was further amended on 15 January 2013 and a copy is available to interested parties on request or online.

The Charity is governed by members at each Annual Assembly and between times by the Trustees as listed on page 1.

Approved by the Trustees and signed by:

Signed: Mark Davies Bishop Mark Davies - Chair and Trustee

Date 2nd June 2025

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 5 to 8. My work has been undertaken so that I might carry out an Independent Examination of the accounts in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). The trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year ended 31 December 2024 under section 144(2) of the Act and that an Independent Examination is appropriate.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 significant matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give 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; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

Signed: 

Nicola Law BSc FCA
34 Inveraray Avenue
Blackrod
Greater Manchester
BL6 5UQ

Date 2 June 2025

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

		31/12/24	31/12/23
	Note	£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	1	375	625
CURRENT ASSETS			
Investments		9,003	9,003
Trade Debtors		15,100	16,310
Prepayments and Accrued Income		555	678
Cash at bank		13,293	8,549
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>37,951</u>	<u>34,540</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Pension Creditor		-	202
Accruals		2,558	1,282
HMRC Payroll		440	477
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>2,998</u>	<u>1,961</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		34,953	32,579
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>35,328</u>	<u>33,204</u>
FINANCED BY:			
Unrestricted fund:			
General		35,327	33,204
		<u>35,327</u>	<u>33,204</u>

Approved by the Trustees and signed by:

Signed: Mark Davies Bishop Mark Davies - Chair and Trustee

Date 2ND JUNE 2025

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

		<u>31/12/24</u>	<u>31/12/23</u>
		£	£
Incoming resources:	Note		
Income from charitable activities	2	27,035	23,385
Other income	3	1,693	1,921
Investment income	4	451	410
Total incoming resources		<u>29,179</u>	<u>25,716</u>
Resources used:			
Charitable activities	5	25,583	28,944
Governance costs	6	1,473	1,363
Total resources used		<u>27,056</u>	<u>30,307</u>
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources		2,123	(4,591)
Fund balances brought forward		33,204	37,795
Fund balances carried forward		<u>35,327</u>	<u>33,204</u>

GREATER MANCHESTER CHURCHES TOGETHER

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**NOTES TO THE REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	<u>31/12/24</u>	<u>31/12/23</u>
	£	£
Note		
1 Tangible fixed assets		
Cost		
As at 01 January 2023	4,238	4,238
Additions		-
As at 31 December 2023	<u>4,238</u>	<u>4,238</u>
Depreciation		
As at 01 January 2023	3,613	3,363
Charge for year	250	250
As at 31 December 2023	<u>3,863</u>	<u>3,613</u>
Net book values		
As at 31 December 2023	<u>375</u>	<u>625</u>
<p>Tangible fixed assets primarily consists of office and computer equipment. Depreciation on tangible fixed assets is provided at 25% on a straight line basis in order to write off each asset over its estimated economic useful life.</p>		
2 Income from charitable activities		
Contributions from member denominations	27,035	23,385
	<u>27,035</u>	<u>23,385</u>
<p>Contributions from member denominations are recognised in the accounts when due, all other income is included on a receivable basis insofar as the amounts are quantifiable and the likelihood of receipt is sufficiently reliable.</p>		
3 Other income		
Employment allowance	1,693	1,921
	<u>1,693</u>	<u>1,921</u>
4 Investment income		
Bank interest	-	23
Income from investments	451	387
	<u>451</u>	<u>410</u>
Total incoming resources	£ <u>29,179</u>	£ <u>25,716</u>

NOTES TO THE REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	<u>31/12/24</u>	<u>31/12/23</u>
	£	£
Note		
5 Charitable activities		
Employment costs	23,537	26,316
Dues and subscriptions	761	1,482
Insurance	685	685
Charitable Donations	-	-
Other meeting costs	279	106
Bank charges	71	105
Depreciation charge for the year	250	250
	<u>25,583</u>	<u>28,944</u>
Charitable activities expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries.		
6 Governance costs		
Professional fees	1,473	1,363
	<u>1,473</u>	<u>1,363</u>
Governance costs include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including strategic management, trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.		
Total resources used	£ <u>27,056</u>	£ <u>30,307</u>

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.