

Company no. NI053634
Charity no. 104970

Connect Christian Fellowship
Annual Report and Financial Statements
5 April 2024

Connect Christian Fellowship

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For The Year Ended 5 April 2024

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Connect Christian Fellowship

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 5 April 2024

Company number	NI053634
Charity number	104970
Registered office and operational address	The Connect Centre 6-10 Model School Road Ballymoney BT53 6BH
Trustees	Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows: Mark Ballantine appointed 18 September 2023 William Patterson Paul Paynter Barry Hyland resigned 18 September 2023 William Kennedy resigned 5 April 2024
Company secretary	Keith Freeburn resigned 5 April 2024
Bankers	AIB 78 Wellington Street Ballymena BT43 6AF
Independent examiners	David McMullan & Co Ltd Chartered Accountants Kenver House 1 Ballykenver Road Stranocum Ballymoney BT53 8PZ

Connect Christian Fellowship

Trustees Report

For the year ended 5 April 2024

The Trustees, who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their annual report together with the financial statements and independent examiners' report of the charitable company for the year ended 5 April 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with current statutory requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Connect Christian Fellowship meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

Legal Structure

Connect Christian Fellowship Limited is a charitable incorporated company governed by its Articles of Association and is a registered charity in Northern Ireland (Charity Registration No. 104970). The charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee.

Purpose

Connect Christian Fellowship's main activities are public meetings at the Connect Centre and group meetings in private homes for worship, prayer, teaching, fellowship and support and encouraging all participants to engage in altruistic activities in the community. The meetings are open to the public and information is available on the website in relation to the gatherings and other events that the church supports. The church has programmes catering for children of all ages up to school leavers. The church supports individuals and Christian charities involved in charitable work locally and internationally. The church supports joint activities with other churches in the Ballymoney area.

Public Benefit

The principal public benefit is the advancement of the Christian faith through a personal belief in Jesus Christ. The church promotes the application of Biblical teaching for life. It trains, equips and supports people in their Christian faith with the benefits flowing from the promotion of family stability and the well-being for those attending. The public are welcome to attend our meetings which are free of charge and open to all. Through its activities and the support given by the church, people have increased opportunity to contribute positively to society and to address poverty and help those in need of care at home and elsewhere. We facilitate those who attend to carry out acts of social concern to benefit persons in the Causeway and surrounding areas facing hardship on the basis of their need and thereby promote the practice of the Christian faith. The benefits are evidenced through weekly meetings to present the teachings of the bible and the provision of opportunities for Christian response including but not limited to prayer and worship and the building up of fellowship. There are groups for children of all ages up to school leavers. In the various meetings we promote the Christian faith, friendship and care. The church facilitates and encourages contact and activities with other churches in the Ballymoney area. The church's beneficiaries are those who attend and participate in meetings and activities including children, youth, parents/carers with toddlers and also members of the general public in the local community and further afield to whom the church members reach out.

Connect Christian Fellowship

Trustees Report

For the year ended 5 April 2024

Many people testify to the beneficial effects resulting from attending the meetings and participating in the activities. The charity also brings benefits to those in need in the local community and abroad through financial and other support of people, and appropriate charitable organisations and individuals carrying out charitable Christian work helping people in need by reason of poverty or sickness and people in need of educational help. Any private benefit flowing from the purpose of the church is incidental. No harm arises from these purposes.

Achievements and Performance

Total incoming resources amounted to £215,165 (2023 - £194,414) and after deducting total resources expended of £157,253 (2023 - £156,770), which excludes fixed asset investments, net incoming resources amounted to £57,912 (2023 - £37,644). At the year end unrestricted funds amounted to £290,932 (2023 - £233,020). All resources received and expended are treated as unrestricted funds, unless otherwise stated.

Governance and Management

The Trustees of the charity have the responsibility for the operational deliverance of the charity's activities and achievement of the objectives. The Trustees who served during the year are as stated below:

Mark Ballantine (appointed 18 September 2023)
William Patterson
Paul Paynter
Barry Hyland (resigned 18 September 2023)
William Kennedy (resigned 5 April 2024)

Trustees are elected in accordance with the Articles of Association.

The Trustees have assessed major risks to which the company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure.

Trustees' Report (Cont'd)

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires that the Trustees prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the affairs of the charitable company and the incoming resources and application of the resources, including the net income or expenditure, of the charitable company for the year. In preparing these financial statements, 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;

Connect Christian Fellowship

Trustees Report

For the year ended 5 April 2024

•state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

•Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Trustees at the meeting on 22 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by



.....
Trustee



.....
Trustee

Connect Christian Fellowship

Independent Examiner's Report

For the year ended 5 April 2024

We report on the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 5th April 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and related notes, set out on pages 5 to 10. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Respective responsibilities of directors and independent examiner

The charity's Trustees (who are also the Directors of Connect Christian Fellowship Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. The charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2013 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to:

- (i) examine the accounts under section 65 of the 2013 Act;
- (ii) to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- (iii) state whether particular matters have come to our attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b). An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the independent examiner's statement below.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



David McMullan & Co Ltd
Chartered Accountants

Kenver House
1 Ballykenver Road
Stranocum
Ballymoney
Co. Antrim
BT53 8PZ

16 December 2024

Connect Christian Fellowship

Statement of financial activities *(incorporating an income and expenditure account)*

For the year ended 5 April 2024

	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Income from:					
Donations	3	23,030	176,989	200,019	172,566
Other trading activities	4	-	15,146	15,146	21,848
Total income		<u>23,030</u>	<u>192,135</u>	<u>215,165</u>	<u>194,414</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		<u>27,000</u>	<u>130,253</u>	<u>157,253</u>	156,770
Total expenditure	5	<u>27,000</u>	<u>130,253</u>	<u>157,253</u>	<u>156,770</u>
Net income / (expenditure)		(3,970)	61,882	57,912	37,644
Transfers between funds		<u>3,970</u>	<u>(3,970)</u>	-	-
Net movement in funds	6	-	57,912	57,912	37,644
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		<u>-</u>	<u>233,020</u>	<u>233,020</u>	195,376
Total funds carried forward		<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>290,932</u></u>	<u><u>290,932</u></u>	<u><u>233,020</u></u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in note 12 to the accounts.

Prior period income and expenditure have been reclassified to reflect the requirements of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) and to be comparable with the current year. The restatements are purely reclassifications of income and expenditure and do not affect net income.

Connect Christian Fellowship

Balance sheet

As at 5 April 2024

	Note	£	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	9		68,210	81,490
Current assets				
Debtors	10		24,934	19,040
Cash at bank and in hand			198,375	133,240
			223,309	152,280
Liabilities				
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	11		(587)	(750)
Net current assets			222,722	151,530
Net assets			290,932	233,020
Funds				
Unrestricted funds	12			
Designated funds			45,335	45,335
General funds			245,597	187,685
Total charity funds			290,932	233,020

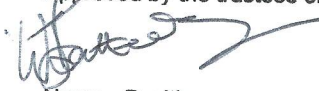
The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the year by virtue of section 477(2), and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (i) ensuring that the company keeps proper 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 section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the trustees on 22nd Dec and signed on their behalf by


 Name - Position
 Trustee

Connect Christian Fellowship

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 5 April 2024

1. Accounting policies

a) General information and basis of preparation

Connect Christian Fellowship is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in Northern Ireland. The registered office address is The Connect Centre, 6-10 Model School Road, Ballymoney, BT53 6BH.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Connect Christian Fellowship meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

b) Going concern basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared on the assumption that the charity is able to continue as a going concern, which the trustees consider appropriate having regard to the current level of unrestricted reserves. There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

c) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

d) Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item, is probable and the economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised.

e) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included 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.

f) Funds accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

Connect Christian Fellowship

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 5 April 2024

1. Accounting policies (continued)

g) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

h) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity, including the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements and any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities. These costs have been allocated in full to charitable activities, on the basis that the charity does not make any direct expenditure on raising funds.

i) Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Building works and infrastructure	25% reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	25% reducing balance

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500.

j) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

k) Cash at bank and in hand

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.

l) Creditors

Creditors and provisions 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 and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

m) Financial instruments

The charitable company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Connect Christian Fellowship

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 5 April 2024

1. Accounting policies (continued)

n) Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. There are no further liabilities other than that already recognised in the SOFA.

o) Accounting estimates and key judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

There are no key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

2. Prior period comparatives: statement of financial activities

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2023
	£	£	Total
			£
Income from:			
Donations	15,103	157,463	172,566
Other trading activities	-	21,848	21,848
	<u>15,103</u>	<u>179,311</u>	<u>194,414</u>
Total income			
	<u>15,103</u>	<u>179,311</u>	<u>194,414</u>
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	15,103	141,667	156,770
	<u>15,103</u>	<u>141,667</u>	<u>156,770</u>
Total expenditure			
	<u>15,103</u>	<u>141,667</u>	<u>156,770</u>
Net income and net movement in funds			
	<u>-</u>	<u>37,644</u>	<u>37,644</u>

Connect Christian Fellowship

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 5 April 2024

3. Income from donations

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2024 Total £
Donations	23,030	149,476	172,506
Gift aid	-	26,873	26,873
Events	-	640	640
Total income from donations	<u>23,030</u>	<u>176,989</u>	<u>200,019</u>

Prior period comparative

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2023 Total £
Donations	15,103	138,423	153,526
Gift aid	-	19,040	19,040
Total income from donations	<u>15,103</u>	<u>157,463</u>	<u>172,566</u>

4. Income from other trading activities

	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Rental income	<u>15,146</u>	<u>21,848</u>

All income from other trading activities is unrestricted for both the current and prior year.

Connect Christian Fellowship

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 5 April 2024

5. Total expenditure

	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	2024 Total £
Staff costs (note 7)	4,383	4,383	8,766
Rent	-	28,667	28,667
Utilities	-	6,400	6,400
Charitable contributions	66,500	-	66,500
Church activities	6,670	-	6,670
Community events	6,589	-	6,589
Maintenance	-	2,122	2,122
Insurance	-	2,610	2,610
Depreciation	-	20,373	20,373
Admin expenses	-	8,556	8,556
Sub-total	84,142	73,111	157,253
Allocation of support and governance costs	<u>73,111</u>	<u>(73,111)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total expenditure	<u>157,253</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>157,253</u>

Total governance costs were £750 (2023: £750)

Prior period comparative

	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	2023 Total £
Staff costs (note 7)	3,300	3,300	6,600
Rent	-	22,000	22,000
Utilities	-	4,787	4,787
Charitable contributions	55,200	-	55,200
Church activities	12,328	-	12,328
Community events	12,081	-	12,081
Maintenance	-	7,687	7,687
Insurance	-	2,133	2,133
Depreciation	-	27,164	27,164
Admin expenses	-	6,790	6,790
Sub-total	82,909	73,861	156,770
Allocation of support and governance costs	<u>73,861</u>	<u>(73,861)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total expenditure	<u>156,770</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>156,770</u>

Connect Christian Fellowship

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 5 April 2024

6. Net movement in funds

This is stated after charging:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation	20,372	27,164
Trustees' remuneration	Nil	Nil
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	Nil	Nil
Independent examiner's remuneration:		
▪ Independent examination (ex VAT)	400	750
	<u>20,772</u>	<u>27,914</u>

7. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and wages	1,463	-
Social security costs	28	-
Freelance staff	7,275	6,600
	<u>8,766</u>	<u>6,600</u>

No employee earned more than £60,000 during the year.

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the trustees, who receive no remuneration.

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Average head count	<u>1.00</u>	<u>-</u>

8. Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

Connect Christian Fellowship

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 5 April 2024

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Building work £	Fittings and fixtures £	Total £
Cost			
At 6 April 2023	71,881	70,620	142,501
Additions in year	<u>1,597</u>	<u>5,495</u>	<u>7,092</u>
At 5 April 2024	<u>73,478</u>	<u>76,115</u>	<u>149,593</u>
Depreciation			
At 6 April 2023	31,448	29,563	61,011
Charge for the year	<u>10,108</u>	<u>10,264</u>	<u>20,372</u>
At 5 April 2024	<u>41,556</u>	<u>39,827</u>	<u>81,383</u>
Net book value			
At 5 April 2024	<u>31,922</u>	<u>36,288</u>	<u>68,210</u>
At 5 April 2023	<u><u>40,433</u></u>	<u><u>41,057</u></u>	<u><u>81,490</u></u>

10. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Gift aid accrual	<u>24,934</u>	<u>19,040</u>
	<u><u>24,934</u></u>	<u><u>19,040</u></u>

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals	480	750
Other taxation and social security	<u>107</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u><u>587</u></u>	<u><u>750</u></u>

Connect Christian Fellowship

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 5 April 2024

12. Movements in funds

	At 6 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	At 5 April 2024 £
Restricted funds					
VISPA	-	1,430	(2,000)	570	-
Morocco	-	21,600	(25,000)	3,400	-
Total restricted funds	<u>-</u>	<u>23,030</u>	<u>(27,000)</u>	<u>3,970</u>	<u>-</u>
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
Barn Fellowship	<u>45,335</u>	-	-	-	<u>45,335</u>
<i>Total designated funds</i>	<u>45,335</u>	-	-	-	<u>45,335</u>
General funds	<u>187,685</u>	<u>192,135</u>	<u>(130,253)</u>	<u>(3,970)</u>	<u>245,597</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>233,020</u>	<u>192,135</u>	<u>(130,253)</u>	<u>(3,970)</u>	<u>290,932</u>
Total funds	<u>233,020</u>	<u>215,165</u>	<u>(157,253)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>290,932</u>

Purposes of restricted funds

VISPA

This fund represents a special collection for the VISPA charity.

Morocco

This fund represents a special collection in response to the 2023 earthquake in Morocco.

Purposes of designated funds

Barn Fellowship

This fund represents monies transferred to the charitable company upon incorporation from the Barn Fellowship.

Transfers between funds

Transfers from unrestricted funds are used to top up restricted collections after transfers have been made to partner organisations.

Connect Christian Fellowship

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 5 April 2024

12. Movements in funds (continued)

Prior period comparative

	At 6 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	At 5 April 2023 £
Restricted funds					
Turkey	-	15,103	(15,103)	-	-
Total restricted funds	-	15,103	(15,103)	-	-
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
Barn Fellowship	45,335	-	-	-	45,335
<i>Total designated funds</i>	45,335	-	-	-	45,335
General funds	150,041	179,311	(141,667)	-	187,685
Total unrestricted funds	195,376	179,311	(141,667)	-	233,020
Total funds	195,376	194,414	(156,770)	-	233,020

13. Related party transactions

Connect Christian Fellowship made donations totalling £30,000 (2023: £30,000) to the Christian Family Centre (NI) during the year. This is missionary support expenditure in recognition of the services provided by Paul Paynter, trustee of Connect Christian Fellowship, to both charitable organisations. He is recused from formal deliberations and decision making in relation to these payments.