

Charity Registration No. 519061

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Miss Claire Davidson Rt Rev Mark Davies Rev Philip Jump Bishop Keith Sinclair Rt Rev Thomas Williams Rev Dr Sheryl Anderson Most Rev Malcolm McMahon Rt Rev Paul Bayes Andrew Edwards Mr Neil Cunningham Mrs Janet Lasham Mr Ultan Russell Major Roger Batt Rt Rev Beverley Mason
Charity number	519061
Principal address	Quaker Meeting House 22 School Lane Liverpool L1 3BT
Independent examiner	Mr Peter Taaffe FCA CTA DChA BWM Castle Chambers 43 Castle Street Liverpool L2 9SH
Bankers	HSBC Bank PLC 99-101 Lord Street Liverpool L2 6PG
Solicitors	Hill Dickinson No. 1 St Paul's Square Liverpool L3 9SJ

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 7
Statement of trustees' responsibilities	8
Independent examiner's report	9
Statement of financial activities	10
Balance sheet	11
Notes to the financial statements	12 - 22

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Charity's Trust Deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "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 2016)"

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

Objectives and activities

The Charity's objects, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, are:

- To draw the churches in membership of the Charity into a fuller understanding of the Gospel
- To promote the visible unity and mission of the Church at every level of Church life as an effective instrument of God's purpose for the local and wider community
- To encourage and enable the Churches to make decisions together where possible
- To give expression to the common faith, baptism and devotion of Christians as they seek to apply the "Lund principle" - to do everything together, except that which in conscience must be done separately

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake for public benefit.

Details of activities

The bulk of CTMR's activities consist of co-ordinating the life of the major Christian denominations in the area by means of:

- establishing and developing joint projects
- providing opportunities for joint meetings, study sessions, conferences, forums, assemblies
- regular newsletters and mailings

SAS's activities comprise largely the raising of funds for the provision of charitable support for asylum seekers and refugees in the area.

- by relieving poverty and destitution
- by contributing to projects promoting their wellbeing

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Achievements and performance

The Central Work of CTMR

Our core activity has continued – supporting a range of partnerships (formal and informal) between Churches, encouraging local co-operative working across denominations and traditions, answering enquiries and requests from the Merseyside community, and co-ordinating the Churches readiness in case of a major incident – albeit mostly virtually because of the pandemic.

Governance

Church Leaders met five times during the year to determine the overall strategy of CTMR, to maintain co-ordinating oversight of its core activities and to share the implications of the pandemic for them personally and for their denominations with each other. The Management Council only met once before lockdown and communicated via email to ensure implementation of decisions made by the Church Leaders, aided by three meetings of CTMR Officers, appointed by the Management Council to support the Ecumenical Co-ordinator. The Trustees also decided on a smaller body of Trustees and worked on the revision of the constitution.

MP Lunch and Civic Reception

CTMR remains committed to an annual lunch for local MPs from the Merseyside Region. The pandemic meant this could not be arranged in 2020, but it will be continued in due course. This provides vital networking opportunities for meaningful conversation in a context of mutual support and constructive engagement. We will also continue to host an annual gathering for mayors and civic leaders to foster ongoing co-operation with faith communities.

Dialogue between Faith Communities

Throughout 2020 the leaders of the different faith communities in the City Region continued to meet, mainly by Zoom. As well as meeting together, the faith leaders were able to work with local authorities throughout the pandemic on a number of issues. In particular, local authorities were able to accommodate the needs of different communities around death and funerals. In addition, faith communities were crucial in tackling local spikes in COVID, and also in communicating public health messages across the region.

Liverpool Cologne Church Partnership

Regular contact was maintained and two Zoom meetings between the two Partnership Groups took place. Regular Zoom meetings are planned for updating, prayer, sharing on scripture and reflections on the concept of Christian Faith as a minority belief increasingly the case in many parts of Europe notably the two twin cities. One shared area of concern was the effect on income for larger churches (like the three Cathedrals!) caused by COVID. It had been hoped that some of the Merseyside Church Leaders might visit Cologne in 2020 and that a delegation from Cologne would visit Merseyside to visit a range of mission initiatives across the denominations. However for planning face to face visits is on hold.

Denominations continue to give ecumenical support to each other's events

This is a great common witness to Christians on Merseyside and beyond. Ecumenical Partners continue to participate virtually as observers in RC Synod meetings and their presence is highly valued.

The Support for Asylum Seekers

Despite the effects and restrictions of COVID the SAS Destitution Project has continued its mandate of providing humanitarian support by relieving destitution and distress among people who have sought asylum or refuge in Merseyside, in addition to those who have been failed by the system, and finally made destitute. SAS has also provided support for local practical help and activities which go some way to addressing their wellbeing needs.

Donations were again gratefully raised from long standing loyal individuals, local churches and faith groups in addition to substantial grants from major external funders. Our local Partner Agencies collaborated with SAS to deliver these services using innovative and novel ways to continue to communicate with their needy clients. SAS has responded to both ad hoc referrals from supporters and donors and also requests from partner agencies including the following:

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

- Faiths4Change (F4C)

Roots in the City Community Garden - this wellbeing project formerly based at the ALM allotments in Childwall, is now firmly entrenched at St Michael in The City where SAS funded the clearance of derelict gardens around the church ready for planting and development and a peace garden.

The regular support from SAS provides a reliable source of income which means F4C can pay staff & volunteers expenses, buy materials and essentially utilise this regular income to match fund grant applications, potentially drawing in additional resources.

During December SAS funds directly supported Art & Craft kits for children and young people whose families are refugees and also the Deputy Director & Support Worker Salary Contributions & Volunteer Christmas / Expenses.

- Refugee Women Connect (RWC)

SAS continued to maintain the same level of funding for RWC as the previous year. SAS was able to obtain and ring fence specific external funding to provide emergency support grants for service users. The humanitarian needs and wellbeing of the RWC clients were particularly exacerbated by COVID-19. RWC clients are at increased risk of domestic violence and exceptionally vulnerable to exploitation and gender-based violence. This vital support helps them to bridge the gap when they are without any funds and awaiting potential support via Section 4 benefits. Service users who are refused and also street homeless continue to struggle to gain sustainable funding. Once again, the SAS destitution fund allows a window to work with these service users to attempt to secure funding.

- Asylum Link Merseyside (ALM)

ALM is the main partner of SAS delivering humanitarian emergency support. COVID-19 changed the usual methods of providing destitution support. The ALM building at St Anne's Centre was closed for most of the year. Social distancing became impossible when providing hot meals, clothing, face to face advice etc. Nevertheless food parcels, clothes, food vouchers and some cash were provided regularly to those clients ALM already had on their books, at the hotels or hostels or their friends' addresses where they were living. SAS contributed additional cash vouchers for the destitute at Christmas time.

- Merseyside Refugee Support Network (MRSN)

For the first time SAS have been asked for support from MRSN and were more than happy to help them with their clients who have been granted status in UK but during that transition period before benefits are forthcoming, have found themselves in dire straits. Here are just a few practical examples of the work of MRSN which SAS has been able to support:

- Advice and help with benefits whilst self-isolating
- Issues of underlying health concerns
- Cash support for fresh food whilst waiting for benefits
- Help with rent
- Advocacy in searching for accommodation and funding entitlement.

The Pentecost Ecumenical Celebration

The Pentecost event was arranged continuing a transition from this being a biennial to an annual event. As different formats are explored the annual procession was replaced in 2020 by a virtual walk along Hope Street. 1100+ people followed this service on-line and 'outstanding' was one of the comments received.

CTMR Social Justice Group

Churches Together in Merseyside have a shared commitment to challenging and combatting injustice. Current initiatives include the "Hope Charter" calling for a fairer and better resourced approach to providing care for the elderly and vulnerable in our region, and supporting refugees with a particular emphasis on forced detention.

Along with Churches Together in Cheshire CTMR also encourage the communities in the Region to stand against modern day slavery both in consumer choices and by being vigilant as we go about our daily lives.

Safeguarding

A new CTMR Safeguarding Co-ordinator was appointed but because of the pandemic it has not been possible to physically bring together representatives from various denominations for safeguarding purposes.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

CTMR Communications Officers

As restrictions because of the pandemic set in, Communications Officers within the CTMR area met online to discuss co-ordinated communications during the Covid-19 restrictions. Their meeting resulted in:

- A structured web-page where a message from the CTMR Church Leaders during the current crisis can be found. It also provides links to resources available within various denominations in Merseyside for use at this time. Resources will be updated as they become available.
- A Facebook page where various partners can offer invitations and information through the press/communications representatives.

New Website

CTMR have worked on a new website which went public in June 2020: www.ctmr.org.uk

CTMR Young Adults 18+

Our young adults have continued to meet throughout 2020 up until the present day, despite the difficulties presented by the Pandemic.

Group members have expressed their gratitude and their joy in being members. They have found it very supportive and tell us that it has helped to develop their friendships as well as their faith.

Having agreed to increase meetings to once a fortnight, over the past twelve months, they have continued to share the responsibility for providing and leading the content.

This has enabled each individual to use his or her God-given gifts to explore topics of common interest across the range of denominations.

Through the ups and downs of life over the past year, mutual support has been a key feature of the group through discussion, reflection and prayer.

They decided to put together a video explaining what belonging to the group means to them and some of this was used during the week for Christian Unity at the Ecumenical Service broadcast from Hope University and led by Fr Taras.

The video is available for viewing on request.

Bonds have strengthened and the young adults remain firm in their commitment to strive to build a Christian Community of mutual respect, support and understanding. The group is very keen to welcome new members.

Networking across the North of England

CTMR also contributed to the networking of colleagues involved in ecumenism across the North of England. This creates greater cohesion and the possibility to address common matters of interest.

Financial review

Overall income for the year amounted to £82,909, a increase of £21,282 on the previous year.

After deduction of expenditure of £73,226 net income amounted to £9,683 as set out in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Total unrestricted funds as at 31 December 2020 are £33,413.

Urban Fund

During 2002, the Merseyside Churches Urban Institute, which was closing down, transferred its funds to MARCEA to be used in line with the Institute's purpose of promoting discussion and research on urban issues.

Reserves policy

The unrestricted reserves are maintained to provide a financial cushion in the event of

- any possible shortfall in the income from the major denominational contributors;
- redundancy payments becoming necessary.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Grant making policy

SAS makes weekly grants of up to £25 to asylum seekers deprived of statutory support. In case of persistent total deprivation, these are now continued beyond the original 10 week limit.

Risk policy

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Plans for the Future

The current COVID-19 pandemic has not had a drastic effect on the SAS's ability to raise funds. However it has had an impact on our partner agencies in direct donations of food, clothes, toiletries and monies. Additionally the closure of the venues to the public have severely restricted their ability to deliver face-to-face assistance, advocacy and other humanitarian support. They have used innovative ways to continue their service especially to the destitute by making deliveries to their homes and hotels or wherever the destitute have been housed temporarily. Many clients are digitally poor with little or no access to mobile phones or the internet, so actual visits have become the only way to support them.

At the time of writing (May 2021) SAS is confident it has sufficient funds for the next 12 month period at least, to support the partner agencies to deliver destitution services at their current level and under the current level of restrictions."

Going Concern

At the time of approving the accounts, and taking into account the effects of COVID-19 since the end of the accounting period under review, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence in the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Structure, governance and management

The Management Council of CTMR is the trustee body of the charity.

The trustees who served during the year were:

Miss Claire Davidson

Rt Rev Mark Davies

Rev Philip Jump

Bishop Keith Sinclair

Rt Rev Thomas Williams

Rev Dr Sheryl Anderson

Rev Jacky Embrey

(Resigned 9 September 2020)

Most Rev Malcolm McMahon

Rt Rev Paul Bayes

Andrew Edwards

Mr Neil Cunningham

Mrs Janet Lasham

Mr Ultan Russell

Major Roger Batt

Rt Rev Beverley Mason

The Membership of the Management Council of CTMR as appointed in accordance with section F(1) of the Constitution is as follows:

The Church Leaders specified in clause G(1)

Baptist	A Regional Minister appointed by the NWBA
Church of England	The Bishop of Liverpool
	The Bishop of Warrington
	The Bishop of Birkenhead
Methodist	The Chair of the Liverpool District
Roman Catholic	The Archbishop of Liverpool
	The Auxiliary Bishop(s) of Liverpool
	The Bishop of Shrewsbury
Salvation Army	The Commander of the North Western Division
United Reformed	The Moderator of the Mersey Synod.

One member, lay or ordained, appointed by the authorised person or body of each of the following bodies:

- The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Liverpool
- The Roman Catholic Diocese of Shrewsbury
- The Church of England Diocese of Liverpool
- The Church of England Diocese of Chester
- The Liverpool district of the Methodist Church
- The Mersey Synod of the United Reformed Church
- The North-Western Baptist Association
- The North-Western Division of the Salvation Army

One member appointed by the Management Council to represent the other churches in full membership, after appropriate consultation with those bodies.

The several honorary advisers for areas of concern appointed by the Management Council

The Honorary Treasurer of the Charity appointed by the Management Council

Up to three members co-opted by the Management Council for a renewable period of one year.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Organisation

Churches Together in the Merseyside Region comprises churches and other bodies in categories of full membership, associate membership, affiliated membership and allied membership, as determined by the constitution. General control and management of the administration of the charity is exercised by the Management Council, which has power to appoint groups to act under its direction.

Support for Asylum Seekers (SAS) is an agency of CTMR set up to support asylum seekers. It became part of MARCEA (subsequently CTMR) on 1 January 2001.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



.....
Rev Philip Jump

Trustee

Dated: ..22/7/21

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' 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 England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that 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;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Churches Together in the Merseyside Region (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2020.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

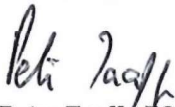
Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements 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 this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Mr Peter Taaffe FCA CTA DChA

BWM
Chartered Accountants
Castle Chambers
43 Castle Street
Liverpool
L2 9SH

Dated: 31/9/21.....

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Restricted funds 2019 £	Total 2019 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	30,191	52,683	82,874	30,476	31,094	61,570
Investments	4	29	6	35	47	10	57
Total income		30,220	52,689	82,909	30,523	31,104	61,627
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	5	27,080	46,146	73,226	31,116	53,452	84,568
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds		3,140	6,543	9,683	(593)	(22,348)	(22,941)
Fund balances at 1 January 2020		30,273	35,521	65,794	30,866	57,870	88,736
Fund balances at 31 December 2020		33,413	42,064	75,477	30,273	35,522	65,795

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

BALANCE SHEET


AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	2020 £	£	2019 £	£
Current assets					
Debtors	11	1,014		1,016	
Cash at bank and in hand		77,297		68,555	
		<u>78,311</u>		<u>69,571</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(2,834)		(3,776)	
Net current assets			<u>75,477</u>		<u>65,795</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	13		42,064		35,522
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds	14	5,748		5,743	
General unrestricted funds		27,665		24,530	
			<u>33,413</u>		<u>30,273</u>
			<u>75,477</u>		<u>65,795</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on and are signed on its behalf by:



 Mrs Janet Lasham
 Treasurer



 Rev Philip Jump
 Chair of Management Council

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Churches Together in the Merseyside Region is a registered charity governed by its constitution. The principal address is the Quaker Meeting House, 22 School Lane, Liverpool.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charity's trust of deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The accounts have been prepared on the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The Charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for Charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts and taking into account the effects of COVID-19 since the end of the accounting period, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds represent the funds of CTMR that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general charitable purposes of CTMR.

Designated funds are funds set aside by the trustees for a particular purpose and are also unrestricted.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.4 Income

Contributions from the member Churches are accounted for in the year in which they are due. Donations from other bodies and Councils of Christian Churches are accounted for as received.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis, i.e. as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing CTMR to the expenditure. It includes irrecoverable VAT.

Wherever possible, each item of expenditure recognised is allocated to charitable activities or governance costs according to its purpose. If this is not possible the cost is apportioned on a reasonable and justifiable basis.

The accounts include transactions, assets and liabilities for which CTMR is responsible in law. The Accounts of SAS and Urban are included.

Expenditure on equipment or other fixed assets is not capitalised but is charged to revenue as incurred if not material.

1.6 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

1.7 Financial instruments

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets are offset, with the net amounts presented in the accounts when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.8 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.9 Retirement benefits

These financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 are the first financial statements of Churches Together in the Merseyside Region prepared in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland. The date of transition to FRS 102 was 1 January 2019. The reported financial position and financial performance for the previous period are not affected by the transition to FRS 102.

Pension Builder Scheme

The Pension Builder Scheme of the Church Workers Pension Fund is made up of two sections, Pension Builder Classic and Pension Builder 2014, both of which are classed as defined benefit schemes.

Pension Builder Classic provides a pension for members for payment from retirement, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the Church of England Pensions Board from time to time. Bonuses may also be declared, depending upon the investment returns and other factors.

Pension Builder 2014 is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum that members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. This account may have bonuses added by the Board before retirement. The bonuses depend on investment experience and other factors. There is no requirement for the Board to grant any bonuses. The account, plus any bonuses declared, is payable from members' Normal Pension Age.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are the contributions payable (2020: £1,322, 2019: £1,411).

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent was carried out as at 31 December 2019.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the valuation revealed a deficit of £9.3m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review, the Board chose not to grant a discretionary bonus, which will have acted to improve the funding position. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £6.2m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, Churches Together in the Merseyside Region could become responsible for paying a share of that employer's pension liabilities.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.10 Taxation

The charity benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions. The charity is not able to recover Value Added Tax. Expenditure is recorded in the accounts inclusive of VAT.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated 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 where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2020	2020	2020	2019	2019	2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	30,191	8,060	38,251	30,469	7,330	37,799
Grants receivable	-	44,623	44,623	7	23,764	23,771
	<u>30,191</u>	<u>52,683</u>	<u>82,874</u>	<u>30,476</u>	<u>31,094</u>	<u>61,570</u>
Donations and gifts						
Contributions from member churches	30,191	-	30,191	30,469	-	30,469
SAS donations	-	7,960	7,960	-	7,330	7,330
Other	-	100	100	-	-	-
	<u>30,191</u>	<u>8,060</u>	<u>38,251</u>	<u>30,469</u>	<u>7,330</u>	<u>37,799</u>
Grants receivable for core activities						
Other	-	44,623	44,623	7	23,764	23,771
	<u>-</u>	<u>44,623</u>	<u>44,623</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>23,764</u>	<u>23,771</u>

Included in the Grants Receivable Restricted Funds amount of £44,623 is a grant to SAS of £10,000 from the John Moores Foundation, being the first of two annual tranches.

4 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2020	2020	2020	2019	2019	2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Interest receivable	29	6	35	47	10	57
	<u>29</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>57</u>

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

5 Charitable activities

	The support of Christian Churches	The relief of poverty and destitution	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	17,798	-	17,798	18,130
Programme costs	900	-	900	2,942
Office expenses	5,057	-	5,057	6,528
Travel expenses	-	-	-	193
	<u>23,755</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,755</u>	<u>27,793</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 6)	-	46,146	46,146	53,452
Share of support costs (see note 7)	1,203	-	1,203	1,304
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	2,122	-	2,122	2,019
	<u>27,080</u>	<u>46,146</u>	<u>73,226</u>	<u>84,568</u>
Analysis by fund				
Unrestricted funds	27,080	-	27,080	
Restricted funds	-	46,146	46,146	
	<u>27,080</u>	<u>46,146</u>	<u>73,226</u>	

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

5 Charitable activities

(Continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2019

	The The relief of encourage poverty and ment and destitution support of Christian Churches		Total 2019
	£	£	£
Staff costs	18,130	-	18,130
Programme costs	2,942	-	2,942
Office expenses	6,528	-	6,528
Travel expenses	193	-	193
	<u>27,793</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,793</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 6)	-	53,452	53,452
Share of support costs (see note 7)	1,304	-	1,304
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	2,019	-	2,019
	<u>31,116</u>	<u>53,452</u>	<u>84,568</u>
Analysis by fund			
Unrestricted funds	31,116	-	31,116
Restricted funds	-	53,452	53,452
	<u>31,116</u>	<u>53,452</u>	<u>84,568</u>

6 Grants payable

The relief of
poverty and
destitution

2019

	£	£
Total	<u>46,146</u>	<u>53,452</u>

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

7 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2020	Support costs	Governance costs	2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	937	-	937	954	-	954
Travel costs	-	-	-	10	-	10
Office costs	266	-	266	340	-	340
Independent examination fees	-	835	835	-	779	779
Accountancy fees	-	1,287	1,287	-	1,240	1,240
	<u>1,203</u>	<u>2,122</u>	<u>3,325</u>	<u>1,304</u>	<u>2,019</u>	<u>3,323</u>
Analysed between Charitable activities	<u>1,203</u>	<u>2,122</u>	<u>3,325</u>	<u>1,304</u>	<u>2,019</u>	<u>3,323</u>

Support costs have been recharged to the encouragement and support of Christian Churches estimated on the basis of time spent.

Governance costs have been recharged to the encouragement and support of Christian Churches activity.

Governance costs includes payments to the accountants of £835 (2019: £779) for independent examination fees and £1,287 (2019: £1,240) for accountancy services.

8 Trustees

The trustees, who served for various periods of the year, received no remuneration or expenses for services provided to the charity (2019: nil).

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

9 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2020 Number	2019 Number
Charitable	1	1

Employment costs

	2020 £	2019 £
Wages and salaries	17,413	17,673
Other pension costs	1,322	1,411
	<u>18,735</u>	<u>19,084</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

10 Financial instruments

	2020 £	2019 £
Carrying amount of financial assets		
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	76,997	68,555
	<u>76,997</u>	<u>68,555</u>
Carrying amount of financial liabilities		
Measured at amortised cost	2,422	2,725
	<u>2,422</u>	<u>2,725</u>

11 Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Prepayments and accrued income	1,014	1,016
	<u>1,014</u>	<u>1,016</u>

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Other taxation and social security	412	1,051
Other creditors	357	661
Accruals and deferred income	2,065	2,064
	<u>2,834</u>	<u>3,776</u>

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

13 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds			Movement in funds			Balance at 31 December 2020
	Balance at 1 January 2019	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 1 January 2020	Income	Expenditure	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Support for Asylum Seekers	57,870	31,104	(53,452)	35,521	52,689	(46,146)	42,064

Support for Asylum Seekers (SAS) is an agency of CTMR set up to support asylum seekers.

14 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds			Movement in funds		
	Balance at 1 January 2019	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 1 January 2020	Income	Balance at 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Urban fund	7,230	13	(1,500)	5,743	5	5,748
	7,230	13	(1,500)	5,743	5	5,748

Urban Fund - during 2002, the Merseyside Churches Urban Institute, which was closing down, transferred its funds to MARCEA to be used in line with the Institute's purpose of promoting discussion and research on urban issues.

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2020	Restricted funds 2020	Total 2020	Unrestricted funds 2019	Restricted funds 2019	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 December 2020 are represented by:						
Current assets/ (liabilities)	33,413	42,064	75,477	30,273	35,522	65,795
	33,413	42,064	75,477	30,273	35,522	65,795

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE MERSEYSIDE REGION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

16 Events after the reporting date

During the first quarter of 2020 there was a global outbreak of Covid-19. The trustees have considered the impact on the charity as detailed within the Trustees' Report and continue to monitor developments on a daily basis.

17 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2019 - none).
