

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements 2022-23



Caritas

Diocese of Salford

Registered number: 06594417

Charity number: 1125808

*“ Thank you so much for everything you have all done
for me, it’s really appreciated.*

I have felt safe, secure and blessed to have been here. ”

Person accessing our services

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Welcome

Without question, Caritas Diocese of Salford has not been in any way immune from the economic and social challenges of these times. For those in poverty or social need, these must have been very testing times, and this has reflected on the activities and expectations of our Caritas work and activities. Coming out of the pandemic into a cost-of-living crisis has meant significant disturbance and anxiety for many families and individuals who were already faced with varying degrees of poverty and deprivation or mental or physical needs.

It is precisely these growing needs that have challenged Caritas in its work which, arguably, has never been more important with its singular purpose of coming to the aid of those in need. Whilst demands on Caritas have grown, so the costs of services and staffing have also increased.

During the last year we have been particularly challenged by the need to assist, in whatever way possible, the refugees from Ukraine who have substantially added to the number of refugees from elsewhere who have arrived in the Greater Manchester area. Bringing no more than they can carry, they are often traumatised by the events that have caused them to flee from their homes in fear for their lives and the lives of their children. Providing accommodation and essential food and provisions has been a priority in our work. We have greatly benefitted from the generosity of families willing to receive refugees but Caritas must also provide ongoing assistance wherever possible.

The economic crisis continues to mean that even hard-working families are finding it hard to make ends meet; people are facing isolation; having to choose between eating and heating their homes; are unable to provide for their children in the ways in which they would like. A recent report estimated that 42% of all children in Greater Manchester are living in poverty and many of them have both parents or guardians in employment. This stands in stark contrast to the

claim that we are the fifth most prosperous nation in the world. This poverty must be understood as linked closely to matters of the environment and the need to insulate housing, provide adequate public transport and provide the means by which all people may live with dignity in a sustainable way.

The Gospel imperative to put love into action includes helping those in need and playing an active part in securing justice and building up communities of compassion. Caritas' work over the last year has continued to ensure that we are upholding the human dignity of individuals and working alongside them to help them transform their lives with dignity.

Our work is only made possible by the generosity of supporters, grant funders, volunteers, parishes and schools. Without their contributions in many and varied ways, we would not be able to continue the work. It is with their continuing assistance that good work is being done for the benefit of people in need.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading '+ John Arnold Bk.' The signature is written in a cursive style.

**Rt Rev John Arnold,
Bishop of Salford**



An Introduction

I'm pleased to introduce our annual report for 2022-2023. While it's impossible to capture all of the hard work that has gone on across Caritas Salford over the last twelve months in a document of this size, this annual report hopefully captures some of the highlights from what has been another positive year of developments, change and progress against our strategic aims.

This progress has been made against a significantly challenging backdrop of social upheaval as the communities we work alongside have continued to face the difficulties brought about by the cost-of-living crisis, covid-19 pandemic and the turmoil of the political, social, health and economic landscapes both in the UK and around the rest of the world too.

It has arguably never been a more complex time for charities like ours to operate. Demand for

our services has continued to increase as people feel the deep impact of the cost-of-living crisis, and it's a crisis that we're not immune to either. Our costs have continued to rise, whether to deliver those services which are needed now more than ever, to pay our utility bills, or to ensure that we're able to meet the needs of local communities now and into the future too.

I'm incredibly proud of our hardworking team of staff and volunteers who have - despite the numerous challenges we've faced - continued to uphold human dignity at a local level and accompanied and supported people as they've changed their lives for the better.

Every day we see families who, despite going out to work hard, still have to make difficult choices about whether they're able to feed or clothe their children; individuals who have suddenly become homeless due to forced evictions, changes in their family or employment life or unexpected illness; people who live alone and without our support would not see another human being from one month to the next. But, thanks to our teams working in the community in Greater Manchester and Lancashire, we're privileged to have supported thousands of people at a time they've needed us most.

There's still a lot to do and we're not complacent. We've had to make difficult decisions around our service provision and what we're able to deliver and will have to make further tough choices in

the future. We have had to continue to work hard to increase our fundraising income to meet the growing demand for those services too and we are incredibly appreciative of everyone who has supported us this year, and who will go on to support us in the coming months and years too. We simply couldn't carry on working in the local community without that kindness and generosity and we never take it for granted.

We know that we need to continue to adapt and evolve, being fleet of foot to respond to the changing needs of the people who need our support and to ensure that Caritas Salford can continue to work in communities in Greater Manchester and Lancashire for many years to come. It's a big responsibility, but we're proud to have so many people across the diocese who join us as we call for - and take - action to bring equity and justice for everyone.

Those people we work alongside will continue to remain at the heart of all the decisions we make and I hope you enjoy reading this report and discovering more about some of the ways we've worked alongside them to help them change their lives with dignity.

Huge thanks to everyone who has been part of our journey over the last twelve months. We couldn't do what we do without you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick O'Dowd'.

Patrick O'Dowd,
Director, Caritas Diocese of Salford

Our Caritas vision, mission, values and objectives

We're the principal domestic social action charity of the Catholic Diocese of Salford and we work alongside people of all faiths and none. Our services span Greater Manchester and Lancashire.

Our vision:

Our vision is for a society where there is justice and equality, and where the voices of people experiencing poverty, disadvantage and/or discrimination are heard, valued and acted upon so that all people can live in peace and dignity.

Our mission:

- **Love in Action:** our mission is to help people across the Diocese of Salford experiencing poverty, disadvantage and discrimination to transform their lives with dignity.
- We provide a practical response to those in crisis, suffering hardship or who are at risk. We rebuild lives for the long-term, enabling people to live in a safe, healthy and secure environment.
- We call for a better, more just world, where the voices of people experiencing poverty are heard and acted upon and we positively influence the systems, decisions and resources that affect those in need.

Our values:

Inspired by Catholic Social Teaching, our values shape our work and underpin everything we do:

- **Respect:** valuing the worth of people; colleagues, volunteers and the people in our communities we work alongside.
- **Integrity:** honesty, truthfulness, straightforwardness and forthrightness.
- **Ambition:** positive desire to achieve things for the common good.
- **Collaboration:** exploring opportunities for partnership and mutual cooperation while remaining faithful to our core mission.

Our objectives:

- Reduce poverty, disadvantage and discrimination in our diocese to enable people to 'live life to the full'.
- Increase awareness and understanding of Catholic Social Teaching and animate the diocesan community to take practical action.
- Become the voice for those who cannot speak for themselves, empowering people and advocating for justice and social change.
- Become a sustainable - and more visible and effective - catalyst for change.

Did you know...?

Caritas Salford was created in 2008, and has since incorporated the work of Catholic Children's Rescue Service, Catholic Welfare Societies, St Joseph's Mission to Deaf People, Justice and Peace, Racial Justice and Catholic Family Care to bring together work of individual charities created over more than a century.



Our reach spans

620

square miles
across the area.



We support **thousands**
of people every year with our range
of community based services.

We run **12** services across
the Diocese of Salford.



We are proud
to be supported by



103

staff



We also have



263

amazing volunteers.



We couldn't do what we do without them.

We support people from
vulnerable communities,
empowering them
and seeking to reduce
poverty, disadvantage
and discrimination.

Don't just take our word for it. Here's what just a few of the people who have accessed our services, our volunteers, and local professionals have said:

“People showed us humanity between friends and neighbours...Life was harder before, here there is safety, humanity, support.”

“Cornerstone means a lot to me, it gives me a sense of purpose and something to look forward to.”

“My Caritas social worker is amazing, so helpful and full of compassion. She is a gem.”

“If it wasn't for St Joseph's I would have had no help in this crisis. They are the only ones that have knocked on my door.”

“When you see that your children are happy you forget that you are far from your family, in exile...You feel that you have achieved something for them.”

Our work this year has continued in line with our four strategic pillars **Service, Formation and Animation, Advocacy and Sustainability**, which underpin everything we do.

Our work and impact

Supporting children, young adults and families:

We support children, young people and families in a range of ways, assisting them with difficulties, providing safe accommodation, and managing opportunities to support development and improve quality of life.

Our work in schools:

Our schools' service aims to remove barriers to learning and participation, nurturing emotional and spiritual development of children and their families and enabling and empowering them to develop new skills and knowledge. The support we provide is tailored to the needs of each individual, providing a bespoke package which can address a range of areas, including behaviour, supporting bereavement, emotional wellbeing, anxiety and confidence.

This year our schools' service has continued to reach thousands of children across the North West, with a combination of specialist group interventions, one-to-one direct work with children, and family support sessions and interventions.

We currently work with 41 primary and high schools within the diocese, a number slightly reduced compared with the same time last year. Schools who have not been able to continue the service have cited budget pressures, and our current offering to schools we work with has been

adapted to provide more flexible patterns of work to better meet budgetary requirements alongside the support needs of the organisations.

The service has continued to support schools in maintaining their focus on education through providing targeted interventions and additional help where a child is struggling emotionally or behaviourally. We support children to overcome barriers to fuller participation and learning in school, to give a greater sense of achievement and enjoyment in all aspects of school life. Building their confidence also enables them to develop their social and communication skills, through a variety of one-to-one sessions, group work and/or family support work as required.

We also support school staff with assessing the needs of children and young people who may need ongoing support in place, or who may be at risk of abuse or safeguarding issues.

Feedback that we receive highlights the positive impact that our interventions have on the children and young people we work alongside. Whether based within small groups or within

individual one-to-one sessions, the provision of a skilled and qualified social worker, counsellor or art therapist is highly valued. In relations to promoting empowerment and shared solutions to difficulties around behaviours, self-harm, early emotional and mental health problems and many other issues that children and young people can present with, the interventions can improve the way those young people can feel about themselves. It has also been felt and feedback by school - and often by the family at home too - that they have opened themselves up to more opportunities and possibilities.

The service collectively responds to many safeguarding issues and supports children, young people, schools and families around clarifying issues, finding the right services, and supporting schools with processes and access to additional resources needed. Team Around the Family meetings, for example, can be invaluable when making a plan and enabling school, family and Caritas to work together to improve circumstances.

Where we have received, or suspect, concerns or allegations about the welfare of a child or vulnerable adult, these are always referred to the appropriate statutory agency, in line with our safeguarding policies and procedures.

This year we have also seen a higher demand for group work around friendships and social skills, in addition to supporting children and young people with coping strategies around anxiety, self-esteem and their sense of identity or loss and bereavement. This may reflect the gaps in school attendance as the norm, in broader routines and in social opportunities informed by lockdowns and the pandemic and further compounded by the additional stresses of the cost-of-living

crisis. Super Skills for Life, Relax Kids, Friendship Groups, Healthy Mindsets and Lego Therapy continue to be very popular.

Groups have also been delivered to parents, carers and families in the form of courses around managing children's behaviour and parenting approaches, Multi Family Groups and courses which are more specialist such as Riding the Rapids are also regularly requested.

Larger workshops and assemblies such as the NSPCC PANTS session have also been delivered throughout the year, as well as transitions workshops as young people prepare for high school.



“ We have used the Caritas team to cover welcome home visits for children and their families who are new to school and coming into nursery and reception. This is really helpful in preparing the children for school and sharing the worker's views and experience too. ”

Headteacher



Some of this year's school service / children and families service headlines in numbers:

New referrals:

472

2,703

children and young people supported



1,321

family support sessions delivered



118

adults supported



1,583

group sessions delivered to children and young people



More than

7,000

young people reached in sessions with our team



1,727

toy sacks delivered to children at Christmas



41

schools supported



97

safeguarding consultations and referrals



Our school service in action:

Supporting 'A'

'A' was referred to the Caritas Schools' Service due to worries about her poor attendance at school. 'A' was often late and found it very difficult to engage with her learning, becoming inattentive in class. During the initial assessment sessions, her mum shared that she had recently left a violent and abusive relationship and 'A' and her sister had witnessed many of the incidents. This relationship had had a major impact on her own and her daughter's mental health and emotional wellbeing. The difficulties were further compounded by the family's tenancy being at risk due to antisocial behaviour from her ex-partner. Home conditions were also poor with very little furniture, with 'A' stating she felt uncomfortable and afraid in her home as the conditions reminded her of her mum's ex-partner. This atmosphere also informed a heightened anxiety about leaving the home and being in school away from her mum.

A plan was worked out in order to improve the issues around housing, finance, debt and emotional wellbeing. Caritas obtained permission from 'A's mum in order to work with the housing support officer and we opened an Early Help Assessment to develop a plan to address the unmet needs and secure the tenancy again. Following this, Team Around the Family (TAF) meetings were held and led by Caritas, progressing actions to improve outcomes around finance and debt, housing, emotional wellbeing and mental health. Our team also were awarded two grants for the family via Buttle Trust and Bishops Fund, which were predominately used to clear up and brighten the home and provide more furnishings.

'A's Mum is working alongside a mental health support worker with a plan to improve and manage her wellbeing as well as working towards improved financial stability. She has said that Caritas' involvement and the enrolment of other support services has improved their situation, and the whole family

have reported that their home conditions are much improved.

'A' now likes her home and feels comfortable, she enjoys the makeover on her bedroom, and her attendance at school has also significantly improved.

'A' and her Mum both report that they are in a better routine and 'A' is having a much more positive start to the school days.





“ Having a Caritas worker means that I can concentrate more of my time and energy on the school learning and education aspects of what I do. Some days it can feel like I could spend all day responding to safeguarding issues and trying to clarify what is needed. On days like these there is someone else to work with who often knows the families and the children, and, if they do not, they can assist and have greater familiarity with the processes and knowledge of how to complete assessments. ”

Headteacher

Our work supporting people who have been adopted:

Through 2022, our Adoption Support Service continued to work with adopted adults and birth relatives, supporting them to access adoption records, reunite with family members, or provide intermediary work.

In the reporting period, they continued to receive and provide support from people seeking access to their adoption records, supporting with family reunions and providing intermediary support services.

Following the closure of our adoption service several years ago, our trustees have been reflecting on the wider challenges experienced by many adoption services in the sector and in

particular on the ongoing support available to adopted adults. While deeply mindful of their commitment to support people who had been adopted by Catholic Children's Rescue Society, the declining numbers of people seeking assistance coupled with the absence of sustainable funding, wider economic pressures including the need to address long-standing pension commitments, they took the difficult decision to close this service with effect from September 2022. This included taking the necessary steps to de-register the service with the regulator Ofsted and ensure the effective transfer of information about people who were adopted

or supported through the agency to Salford City Council, the appropriate local authority duty holder.

Those adopted are still able to access their documents and we have committed to continuing to provide signposting information on how to do this.

The Trustees would like to recognise and thank all those who have been involved in creating, developing and nurturing the service over many years and reassure them that our commitment to children and families needing support will continue in new ways to meet alternative demands.



Our young parents' accommodation and support services:

Our young parents' accommodation in Bolton and Blackburn provide support, safety, security and a period of stability to young parents and their children at a time when they have experienced crisis or distress in their lives. While our work predominantly supports young women aged 16-25 years and their babies up to the age of two years, we have also been able to provide a safe refuge for single fathers and for young couples in our family room.

The support we provide enables the young people to prepare for independent living, supporting their immediate and longer-term needs with a safe, supportive temporary place for their family to live. We support them to develop their confidence and abilities in order for them to have a greater choice and make necessary changes to transform their lives. We also regularly contribute to local authority safeguarding assessments to ensure children are protected, working alongside social workers and early help and support services. The services work closely with statutory Children's Services and the service in Blackburn is contracted through Blackburn with Darwen Council.

Over the last year we have continued to equip parents with independent living skills, including how to manage their finances. Grants have also been secured for our residents to help them to set up their own homes in the community when they are ready for independent living.

We have made significant improvements to the service this year, including changing to providing 24/7 support. We have invested in staff training and a new case management system which have supported our strengths-based, trauma-informed approach that maximises the involvement of and benefits to our families.

We have a strong multi-agency approach and work collaboratively with a range of statutory and voluntary sector partners to ensure we are delivering a joined up, comprehensive, safe and effective service for young people and their families.

In the coming year we plan to further develop our service provision. In particular to introducing a wider

range of in-house parenting classes, activities and training to further increase the skills and

confidence of our young parents. We are looking closely at the potential to redevelop the accommodation in our Blackburn property which is owned by Caritas and are in discussions with the landlord of the property we use in Bolton about the long-term use of that building. Our hope is to be able to expand this further, subject to dialogue with Bolton Local Authority and other partners in the area as we believe there is a continued demand for support in this area.

Some of this year's service headlines include:

- **61** adults and children safely accommodated in the accommodation with a support plan in place.
- **95.5%** overall occupancy
- **5,579** nights of accommodation provided
- 11 families supported to move on to their own independent tenancies having received help to register for rehousing, bid on properties, sign up for their tenancies, find furniture and move in.
- 12 babies have been born to mothers staying in our service this year with staff able to provide support through their pregnancy and then support the mothers when they bring their new babies home.

Supporting 'A' and her family

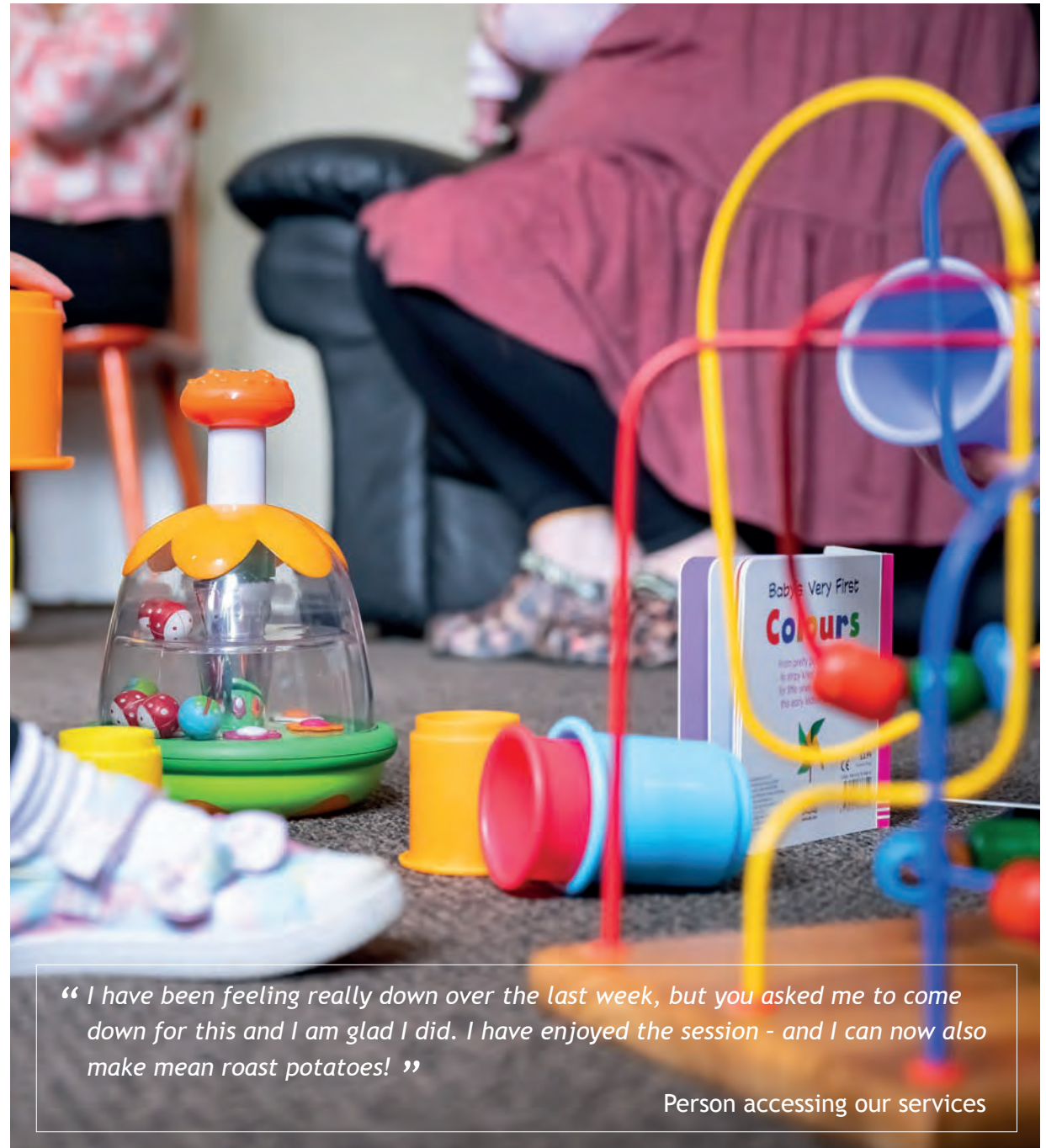
'A' moved into our accommodation as an emergency referral - a vulnerable, pregnant young person, fleeing an abusive relationship, and facing homelessness on her own.

She arrived with few belongings and was very nervous and overwhelmed. Staff immediately made her feel at ease and supported her to settle into her new accommodation.

Due to the support and encouragement of staff, her confidence grew and she engaged fully in key worker sessions, accessing all support offered and gaining the knowledge and skills required for effective parenting.

The team continued to support her holistically with budgeting, mental and physical health support, positive relationship building and healthy eating, and the impact of this support enabled her to retain custody of her baby. She is now looking forward to bringing up her family in a new home. She recently said to staff:

"I would not have got through this without all your help. Thank you."



" I have been feeling really down over the last week, but you asked me to come down for this and I am glad I did. I have enjoyed the session - and I can now also make mean roast potatoes! "

Person accessing our services

Supporting homeless people:

The cost of living crisis and the lasting impacts of the covid-19 pandemic have led to increasing numbers of people facing homelessness. This year we have been able to help more than 1,200 people through our five homeless services.

With more people becoming or facing the threat of homelessness, our teams needed to be responsive and adapt to changing needs to help families and individuals in need of urgent support.

The aim of our homelessness services remains the same - to ensure that people in our community have the support they need to prevent them from becoming homeless, and that people who do become homeless are helped to secure, safe accommodation with the help they need to make a new home. We want a world where no-one has to sleep rough.

In parallel with delivering these direct housing outcomes, we also aim to enable people who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness to improve their wellbeing, providing services which meet their immediate basic needs, promote mental health and wellbeing, enable people to access health and other support services, and to take up education, training, volunteering opportunities and employment as a means of sustaining positive housing outcomes.

The teams across our homelessness services work with people to design, deliver and evaluate what we do to ensure we are meeting their needs and will enable people in our services to have a voice in advocating for policy change where it's needed. We also work in partnership with other organisations in the statutory, voluntary and faith-based sectors to deliver work and maximise impact on the people in our local communities.

Some of this year's homelessness service headlines in numbers:



Cornerstone:

At Cornerstone, our day centre facility in Manchester, a holistic approach to supporting the whole person and assisting people to have their voice heard remained key.

The people who come to Cornerstone are like all of us - they aspire to have a good quality and safe place to live, friendships, good health and a purpose in life. We're proud that the majority of people who visit feel we help them with all or some of these aims.

This year our primary objective was to completely transform the service delivered, to create a community centre which is truly run in partnership with the people who visit. We continued to focus on improving our recording of data - both qualitative and quantitative - to help to further shape and develop our offering, and raising the profile of the service to increase our influence and partnership working also continued.

During the last twelve months, 42 people who are or have been homeless joined our new Community Volunteering Programme. This has given them a new purpose, as well as increasing skills, confidence and self-esteem and has helped improve our services.

We have also been supported by the generosity of corporate volunteers, including teams from NatWest, Kellogg's, Welspun, Bruntwood Scitech and BT. These corporate team days enable up to



ten individuals from a company to experience working with our Cornerstone team for a day and many continue to support our charity in other ways throughout the year. We're hugely grateful to everyone who supports our work and enables us to continue working alongside local people.

We have developed our activities timetable with the input of people who use the service and now have a new outdoor gym, garden area and games. We run weekly gym sessions where people can access the outdoor gym equipment, badminton or basketball. We also run our own gardening group where we are growing fruit and vegetables, are composting food waste from the kitchen, and using other recyclable waste to make bee hotels. Our aim is to create an environment where people can feel a sense of ownership over the space and improve their wellbeing.

One individual, speaking about our games session, said: "I saw people playing dominoes yesterday but I didn't feel confident enough to play. My mental health was a lot better today so I had the courage to join and I really enjoyed it. I will definitely play again now that I feel confident."

Creativity has played a big part in our work this year too. We were involved in Streetwise Opera's project, which included a performance at Bridgewater Hall, and have also delivered art and poetry workshops. We plan to expand our arts programme, providing people with

the opportunity to learn new skills, express themselves, improve their confidence and wellbeing and have some fun together.

In a session to plan a new food project, one of our attendees said: "When you're homeless you live off junk. If you teach people to expect better, then you're challenging the things that keep them homeless. Life revolves around food, you're going back to the basics of why we live and find pleasure. It should be a lot of fun for people to play with this, mixing cooking and creative writing and gardening. Growing things is creating too, after all."

From October 2022, the centre was also a registered warm space from Monday to Friday between 12noon and 1.30pm. The team provided a free, safe space for people to access throughout the winter and served hot three-course lunches daily. Need for this service has grown significantly due to the cost-of-living crisis, with many visitors reporting that they are unable to afford heating for showers or gas for cooking. We regularly support 90-110 people per day.

Our health support provision has also increased with Cornbrook GP running a drop-in and chronic disease screening weekly, Urban Village Medical Practice van visiting once a week, a monthly podiatrist, weekly optician and a mental health worker attending the centre two days a week too. We also have partnerships with the DWP,

Manchester Homeless Assessment Team, Shelter and Boaz who run regular drop-ins on site to help people with benefits, housing and immigration advice.

Some headlines from Cornerstone this year include:

- **72** health drop-in sessions supporting **150** people
- **42** people experiencing homelessness became community volunteers at Cornerstone
- **847** people used the service
- More than **23,000** hot lunches provided
- More than **1,400 showers** for over 200 individuals
- **134** individuals supported with a food parcel or food bank referral



Supporting 'B':

'B' had been sleeping at the airport and came to our Cornerstone centre in July.

They started to volunteer straight away, giving them access to a weekly bus pass and a way to spend their time productively. Within a week of attending, they had been supported to contact housing and secure temporary accommodation through the council.

Since then they have received free eye care from our Visioncare drop-in, applied for a national insurance number which enabled them to apply for benefits and they have now secure paid work.

We also celebrated their official name change by deed poll with a signed card and some cake.

'B' says that Cornerstone has been like a family to them and although they no longer require our support, they continue to come in and see staff and people that use the service.

“ I can't tell you how much of a positive impact volunteering here has had on my life. I think it's being an important member of the team and people relying on you. It's the best job I've ever had.”

Volunteer



Morning Star:

Morning Star, adjacent to our Cornerstone centre in central Manchester, provides high quality, safe, supported accommodation for 20 single men.

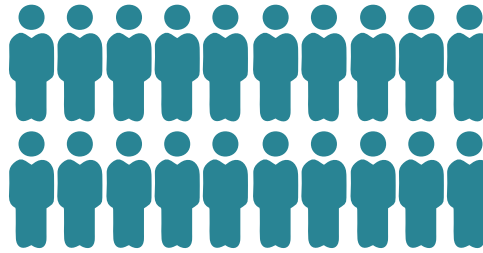
They each have their own bedroom, access to a shared kitchen and living room and a support worker. The team provides the time for people to build the confidence and skills for independent living and supports the re-establishment of relationships with those closest to them if possible.

This year saw a focus on redesigning Morning Star as a supported alternative to unsupported bed and breakfast provision and creates a new pathway off the streets. The team aims to support individuals to move on to more permanent accommodation, using a multi-agency approach to ensure a holistic support package.

We invested significantly improvements to the Morning Star building, upgrading the bedrooms with new carpets, furniture, curtains and bedding funding through room sponsorship donations. We've also upgraded the living room, laundry facilities, support rooms and garden. We also provided two additional single rooms for emergencies which provided a safe space for people sleeping rough during severe cold weather. Improvements to the facility will continue to be made in the next year, including creating more en-suite bathrooms.

A new staff team was recruited and trained to provide 24/7 support with a psychologically-informed, strengths based approach which promotes recovery from the trauma of homelessness.

This year Morning Star:



Provided **103** people with safe, supported accommodation



45 people supported to move into longer term or permanent accommodation

The average length of stay was just **50** days, significantly less than the average stay in alternative unsupported bed and breakfast accommodation.



Our Morning Star Hostel service in action:

Supporting 'A':

'A' had become homeless due to a relationship breakdown and due to his poor health was accommodated by the council but placed in bed and breakfast accommodation. He had been in the bed and breakfast with no support for over 12 months when he came to the Cornerstone Day Centre.

Staff helped him with practical things including laundry, food parcels and hot meals. He had lost weight due to his living conditions, which had also adversely affected both his physical and mental health. Cornerstone staff asked him if he would like to transfer to the Morning Star - he was shown the vacant room and was very keen to move, which we were able to organise with the council the same day.

While at Morning Star he was supported to register with the on-site GP and saw the visiting nurse and mental health worker. He also joined in various activities and reported an improvement in his mental health. He met regularly with his support worker and together they applied for longer term supported housing for him.

He has now successfully moved on but still comes back to access activities and support, which has provided a continuity of support that he has found very beneficial and which will continue when he moves to his own tenancy.



“I have been in and out of prison for fifteen years and this is the first time I have had any support.”

Person accessing our service

Red Door Day Centre:

Caritas Red Door is our day centre for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in Bury. We provide a warm welcome to anyone over 18 and provide holistic support including helping with housing, finance/benefits and health issues with a big focus on wellbeing. We also provide free nutritious meals and a warm hub where people can socialise.

The team supports a wide range of people from the local community including people sleeping rough or sofa surfing and people struggling to maintain their tenancy, those struggling with finances or living in social isolation, people experiencing mental health difficulties, those with drug and alcohol dependency and individuals with no recourse to public funds.

This year, we have transformed and expanded the service and now operate five days a week, with a full range of timetabled activities and support sessions. We have partnered with other organisations including Bury Council's Rough Sleeper Team and the Achieve Drug and Alcohol Service, to increase the range of support on offer.

We have co-produced our new service and also introduced a Community Volunteer Programme which has seen 17 people who use the service taking part in volunteering sessions such as decorating and gardening. Through these sessions, people have gained new skills, improved

their confidence and built greater resilience, with a number of the volunteers also moving on to education and secure employment as a result.

Some headlines from Red Door this year include:

- **217** individuals supported
- **30** people helped into temporary or permanent secure accommodation
- **40** people have attended activity sessions, improving their wellbeing
- **27** individuals helped into education, volunteering or employment

“ You’ve helped me sort this payment plan out now, I know exactly how much I need each month and now I’m actually a month ahead on my payments. It feels like a massive weight has been lifted. I used to proper stress about this stuff. ”

Person accessing our service

“ You know what, to look past everything I have done in my past and look at me, the person I am today and ask me to volunteer is massive. To put your trust in me, I can’t tell me how much it means. You know I won’t let you down. Thank you. ”

Community Programme Volunteer



Supporting 'B':

'B' first came to Red Door when he was sleeping rough on the street and had a substance misuse problem.

Through attending Red Door he was able to access housing and drug support, via referrals to professional support agencies. He was supported to open a bank account, claim benefits and eventually move into his own tenancy.

When things got tough and 'B' relapsed, he was welcomed back and staff helped him to see where things had gone wrong and how he could manage tough situations better in the future.

He continues to live in his flat which he has been able to fully furnish, he manages his money well and today, is rebuilding relationships with his immediate family, whom he has not seen for a number of years.

He has now started volunteering regularly at Red Door under our Community Volunteer Programme.



The Lalley centre and community allotment:

Our Lalley centre and community allotment in Collyhurst supports people on low incomes with practical needs in health, housing, family and employment.

Staff and volunteers assist people who are unemployed or receiving benefits, families facing homelessness, those struggling with addictions, mental health issues or conditions that prevent them from working. The community allotment offers the chance for local people to learn new skills whilst also providing fresh produce as part of a healthy-eating scheme, which also supplies our community pantry at the centre.

For part of the reporting period - from September 2022 to February 2023 - it was necessary to temporarily suspend part of the 1-2-1 support work due to limitations on staffing, however, food support and assistance continued to be provided. We took the opportunity to redevelop the service provision and, since February 2023 have expanded the support available along with wellbeing sessions to support local communities and people impacted by the cost-of-living crisis.

The newly reopened allotment is also more community-focused, with individuals visiting helping out across the whole site and learning about all aspects of gardening. The resulting harvest will also help to supply the community

pantry with fresh produce for local people to enjoy.

Partnership working has been key for both the Lalley Centre and community allotment, with local police community support officers holding surgeries on site and a debt advice service also launched to help local people.

The allotment is also part of the Good to Grow partnership of community gardens and Green Social Prescribing, whereby patients can be referred by a doctor to undertake a course of outdoor-based activities at designated sites.

The allotment also welcomed adults in recovery who are supported by Manchester charity Back on Track as they enjoyed some peaceful time outside in the fresh air. Our own Aspire Education group also began visiting the allotment once a month as part of their English language programme, learning through conversation while working in the garden.

The Saviour Primary School's nurture and forest school groups also used our allotment this year for sessions under the guidance of our allotment coordinator, with children learning about how to grow food and getting directly involved - from seed growing to harvest.

The team also hosted a free training day in partnership with Lancashire Wildlife Trust and Sow the City which focussed on Therapeutic Horticulture. The session brought together the

theory behind maximising the wellbeing benefits of gardening and group work on designing sessions for people with particular needs, as well as practical activities outside on the allotment.

The Lalley Community Allotment in action:

Supporting 'J':

'J' started volunteering at our community allotment while she recovered from a breakdown in her marriage, losing her job and custody of her children.

She has found learning to grow plants to be a peaceful and therapeutic activity which brings her a little closer to the clarity of mind which she said she had lost since her breakdown.

She has attended a training day on Mental Health in Nature, delivered by Manchester Mind at the Lalley Centre, and is keen to continue learning about gardening and mental health in the hope of potentially finding a new career based on something that improves both her own and others' mental health.

Some key headlines around the service provided by the Lalley Centre this year include:



653 emergency food parcels given out to individuals and families



246 adults and children accessed the services



130 toiletry parcels provided to local people



One-to-one sessions delivered to support debt management and benefits help

15 local primary school visits to the allotment teaching children how to grow food from seed



59kg of food produced on the allotment equivalent to **739** meals



Caritas Connecting Older People (formerly St Joseph's Welfare):

In North Manchester we run our Caritas Connecting Older People services supporting people over 65 years old in the community. These services reach out to those individuals who may be experiencing loneliness and isolation, and offer friendship and support to help them to remain independent in their own home for as long as possible. The team also provides practical services such as support with shopping, helping with letters or professional phone calls and runs weekly group sessions, day trips and special events to bring people together to socialise and enjoy some peer companionship.

Over the last year the service received a high number of new referrals, who were all offered the option to attend a Wednesday group where people took part in activities, built confidence and socialised with others.

Celebratory and themed events were well attended, including 97 people taking part in our Easter celebrations and the Jubilee for the Queen. 61 people also attended a trip to York markets at Christmas. These activities supported our aim of reducing isolation in older people and were carried out in partnership with other organisations such as Rainbow Surprise, NEPHRA and Obado.

The team's partnership working also led to the nomination and subsequent win of the Connecting Older People service in the annual Spirit of

Manchester Awards. Linking with partnership organisations and our Caritas St Joseph's Mission to Deaf People has meant the group has also celebrated culture from the UK and beyond - from being taught crochet from people using British Sign Language, to dressing, cooking, eating and dancing in cultures from South Asia.

A Digital Inclusion course was also delivered with Northwards, supporting people to improve their digital skills such as emailing, making safe purchases online and better incorporating of a modern digital world into their day-to-day lives. These new ways to connect have also meant a reduction in isolation, more independence and increased confidence.

Over the last year the service has:

- Supported **166** people
- Provided **48** activity sessions
- Provided **4** special trips, meals and celebration activities to further reduce isolation

Knowing of the acute (and growing) need for local people to be supported, we were disappointed to learn that the Our Manchester funding for the Connecting Older People Service was not to be continued - ending on 31 March 2023. Despite significant efforts to secure another source of funding for the service, which has been funded by

Our Manchester since 2017 and has been operating in various forms for over 20 years, unfortunately we have been unable to do so.

As a charity we were able to commit to continuing the service for three months following the funding ending, to enable us to appropriately wrap up and ensure individuals are signposted to other organisations where they may find support.

This has been a difficult situation and we are extremely grateful to everyone who has supported the service over almost two decades of its operation.

“ I think it's marvellous what you do for people, thank you so much for all your help. ”

Person accessing our service

“ 'A' said that she can't wait to come to the group session each week - it's all she talks about to her family and she always asks if it's Wednesday yet. ”

Person accessing our service

St Joseph's Mission to Deaf People:

St Joseph's Mission to Deaf People recognises the rights and needs of Deaf people. We believe and acknowledge that Deaf People are a cultural and linguistic (Sign Language users) minority group.

Our team at the St Joseph's Mission to Deaf People works to break down the barriers of isolation experienced by members of the local Deaf community. The team ensures that access to services and pastoral support is available and delivered in language suitable to a D/deaf audience, many of whom use British Sign Language or Sign Supported English as a primary communication method.

The service is available to all people who identify as Deaf, deaf, deafened, hard of hearing and their family members. We also welcome those with dual-sensory differences and any use of assistance technology.

Additionally, the team also seeks to raise awareness in the wider community and among people who are hearing of the life, culture and experiences of the D/deaf community.

This year the service has been invaluable in bringing those who are D/deaf into Caritas projects, not only for them to utilise the services but for the awareness, presence and learning from D/deaf people and their culture.

British Sign Language taster sessions have also been delivered and these have encouraged and given confidence to hearing non-signers to use sign language in basic conversations with D/deaf people. This has also helped D/deaf people feel more confident in approaching other services across Caritas.

The team has also continued to create video resources which have been provided to the community via the Caritas website and social media accounts. These have proven a popular way for individuals to engage and receive information.

We have provided a signed Mass (with Canon Paul Daly) every Sunday at 11.30am at St Patrick's Church (Livesey St, M4 5HF), which is followed by a social environment in the church. Signed Mass is also available at St John's, Ivy Street, Burnley every last Sunday of the month at 3pm. The signed Masses are open to all.

Some key headlines from the service this year include:

- **52** people regularly using the service
- **52** people attending weekly Sunday services of signed Mass
- **31** attendees of British Sign Language taster sessions



Supporting Refugees:

Our services to refugees and people seeking asylum, which have been supporting the welcoming, protecting, promoting and integration of refugees into life in the UK since their foundation in 2016, have assisted hundreds of people fleeing war, famine and poverty. We support parishes and communities in joining practical action, aiming to improve the lives of families and help them to resettle locally.

Aspire Education (formerly Refugee Education):

Caritas Aspire Education offers English classes, mentoring and wellbeing services to refugees in Greater Manchester. Integral to our service is the offering of a welcoming and aspirational community in which refugees can pursue their aspirations, integrate into their new communities, and rebuild their lives. This is achieved through English language tuition, coaching into higher education and employment, and wrap-around wellbeing support.

The people accessing the service include refugees and people seeking asylum from around the globe, including large cohorts from East Africa, the Middle East and Iran as well as Afghanistan, Hong Kong and Ukraine. Students often have aspirations to progress into professional employment, many wishing to restart careers that have been cut short due to conflict. Our support enables them to rebuild their lives and give back to their new community.

This year we have also seen our learners improve their confidence through participation in social activities and conversation clubs, as well as

through their English classes. There has also been improved knowledge about employment, higher education and volunteering pathways among our learners due to one-to-one support being offered by our Student Advisor. Our work to support people to gain an increased level of personal control and new opportunities to rebuild has also been key, improving outcomes for both those direct beneficiaries, but also more widely by helping tackle intergenerational unemployment by boosting the socio-economic prospects of their families and wider community.

We have also seen our learners build their social networks through mentoring, wellbeing classes and lessons. The increase in learners from Hong Kong, Ukraine and central America has also seen the diversity of our learner cohort increase and has led to more intercultural and interfaith exchange in our project.

Partnerships have also remained key this year, with a contract to deliver ESOL courses with Manchester Adult Education Services continuing. We also worked with Northwest Regional Strategic

Migration Hub to offer ESOL courses and wrap-around support to BN (O) visa holders from Hong Kong.

We work with Mustard Tree in central Manchester including their Freedom Project, which offers people volunteering opportunities with a view to finding full-time employment. So far more than 30 Caritas Aspire learners have joined the project.

Individuals from Deloitte Manchester office volunteer in conversation clubs with people accessing our service, and also offer monthly employability workshops to further support development.

Over the last year, some headlines from the Aspire Education service include:

- **160** people accessing the service
- **240** wellbeing interventions and referrals made
- More than **50** refugees and people seeking asylum given one-to-one support to access education, careers or volunteering.
- Twice-monthly wellbeing sessions attended by **52** individuals



Aspire Business:

Aspire Business supports entrepreneurs from a refugee background who strive to establish successful business across Manchester and Lancashire. It is a project which is partly funded by the Home Office RTOF (Refugee Transition Outcome Fund), Ben and Jerry's and TERN (The Entrepreneurial Refugee Network).

People who access Aspire learn about the principles of business and are supported to develop their ideas, services and products to become a step closer to achieving their entrepreneurial aspirations.

As well as providing practical support and training, the team also provides mentoring and coaching to help build confidence, whilst also broadening people's networks to help them reach new markets.

Our team provides a tailored, flexible approach, in an environment which allows aspiring entrepreneurs to test their ideas and interact with real customers. This approach empowers people as they endeavour to establish thriving businesses that positively impact both them and wider communities across Greater Manchester and Lancashire too.

In the coming year the team will also be broadening their reach to increase the numbers of people benefiting from the service, engaging with local authority referrals and continuing to

broaden and further improve training content for aspiring entrepreneurs. We will also be building further partnerships with companies and businesses locally who can provide both practical and financial support to the start-ups that are created as a result of our Aspire Business programme.

Some headlines from Aspire Business this year include:

- **13** individuals completed the 12-week basic business training course, Up Collective
- **12** individuals supported via the On Demand programme which supports those nearer to the launch of their business
- **52** people attended a special marketplace event for refugees to showcase their businesses



Supporting 'M':

'M' is an artist and an entrepreneur who joined the Aspire programme after she nearly gave up on her Idea DIPACT which is an art cafe/ collective run by local artists and managed by her and her partner.

She learned new skills during this programme, and especially through the one-to-one support provided by her mentor who is a business owner and an investor.

Her mentor helped her to shift her focus from the creative side of her business (which is her main passion and strength) to thinking about her business planning, pitching to investors, doing market research and getting to know her competition. He has also agreed to continue working with her beyond this programme.

'M' tested her prototype via video presentation and with the feedback received was able to create a more refined business plan. She pitched her final idea to around 100 guests at the Aspire graduation event - an event where she was also approached by a retired account manager who said that she would like to help her with managing the accounts for her company.

'M' has been referred to an advanced programme that is helping her with vital steps for the creation of her company and she will continue working with her mentor to pitch her idea to more investors and connections provided by the network of her mentor and the network she built through Aspire.



Supporting people from Ukraine: Community Sponsorship Scheme:

The war in Ukraine has led to significant displacement and challenges for many families who have come to our diocese to seek support. Through appeals and applications for grant funding, we have appointed our Ukrainian link worker who seeks to establish links with people from Ukraine, filling the gaps in support, linking and signposting to help them to integrate in the local community. We have supported individuals and parishes to participate in the Homes for Ukraine scheme as hosts and been able to match families to particular hosts enabling Ukrainians to arrive in the UK to safe accommodation, access education for children and young people in local schools, providing funds for uniform and transport. We have been able to provide support to the Ukrainian Catholic church in Manchester with the development of creche space within the church to support the number of infants and children that have arrived and are seeking to expand further our work with the Homes for Ukraine hosting scheme by partnering with the St John of God Hospitaler services and the CSAN co-ordination team.

Finally, we are particularly grateful to partners in Caritas Krakow for their support with matching and referral of people who need resettlement assistance and with providing up-to-date on the ground knowledge and experience.

Through our Community Sponsorship Scheme, Caritas Salford enables a group of volunteers to safely resettle, welcome and support a family of refugees in their community for two years. As the lead sponsor, we provide capacity and professional supervision, acting as guarantor of the scheme and providing the framework for safeguarding, training, mentoring, and evaluating the programme. This enables a family to pursue their aspirations, and allows parishioners to live faith through action.

The programme is rooted in mutual collaboration and empowerment, working alongside refugees, and throughout the pandemic we have adapted and developed the processes and policies based on learning and improved understanding of the social, psychological and environmental challenges resettled families experience.

This year the team has continued to work in partnership with organisations locally and nationally to support the resettlement of families and improve experiences and best-practice, including the Home Office, Local Authorities, North West Regional Strategic Migration Partnership, Reset, Caritas Diocese of Shrewsbury, Caritas Social Action Network, University of London, City of Sanctuary, Greater Manchester Sanctuary Seekers community response, and the European Council on Refugees and Exiles.

Some headlines from our Community Sponsorship Scheme this year include:

- **160** people including volunteers used our service
- **4** families (or 15 individuals defined as vulnerable by the UNHCR) were safely resettled in the UK
- **4** newly resettled families (or 15 individuals) signed a tenancy agreement for housing that was secured for two years
- The families were supported to find GPs, open bank accounts and access other local services
- **6** children were successfully registered in school or college
- Families were supported at **303** appointments this year



Supporting 'I':

'I' came to Manchester from Ukraine in April 2022 after the Russian invasion.

Caritas Aspire was the first organisation she came into contact with and she has been studying with us ever since.

She was a industrial engineer in Ukraine and has been helped with her employability, including improving her CV and converting her overseas qualifications.



“ The Aspire programme provided knowledge, structure and flexibility, and it was an empowering experience which was exactly what I needed - to not be defined by a forced migration background but actually valued for my skills and experiences. ”

Aspiring entrepreneur



Caritas Charity Shop and Community Drop-In

Our volunteer-led and run charity shop near Bolton town centre provides more than just access to quality, affordable products - also offering the much-needed opportunity for people in the community to drop-in and socialise with others.

The shop also hosts a Community Café style area in which people can get refreshments with toast, and a warm smile.

Regrettably the shop and community drop-in have continued to struggle again this year, following the reduction of pandemic restrictions and an increase in the cost-of-living for people in the local community. However, despite the challenges, changes in the local area, including to the bus station, have meant increased footfall and the shop has managed to achieve a profit supporting other projects in Caritas.

The shop has sadly been broken into twice in the past year, meaning an increase in insurance premiums and significant outlays for excess charges and other associated expenses. Despite these challenges, the team of dedicated volunteers have worked incredibly hard to ensure that the shop has been able to stay open as much as possible, meeting the needs of local people.

The items sold in the shop are of noticeably good quality and are all checked, cleaned and laundered ready for public sale.

While the community benefit of the shop, particularly the drop-in, is significant, the trading circumstances and wider funding pressures continue to present challenges to operating and sustaining the service financially. Working together as a team of volunteers and employees, Caritas is continually looking for ways to improve income and reduce cost so the charity shop remains a Bolton presence and a funding benefit to our much-needed projects.



John Roddy, RIP

It was with great sadness that we learned that John, a long-time volunteer and supporter at our shop, died in April 2023.

John was integral to the formation and day-to-day operation of our shop and he is greatly missed by our volunteer led service.



Accessibility:

At Caritas, we believe that everyone should have opportunity to participate in all activities. This includes people who use our services, employees and volunteers. We seek to welcome, integrate, and support the participation of all people by making our projects accessible. If people do face barriers because of a physical, mental, emotional, learning, sensory and/or communications need we strive to work alongside individuals to find inclusive ways of working that suit people best.

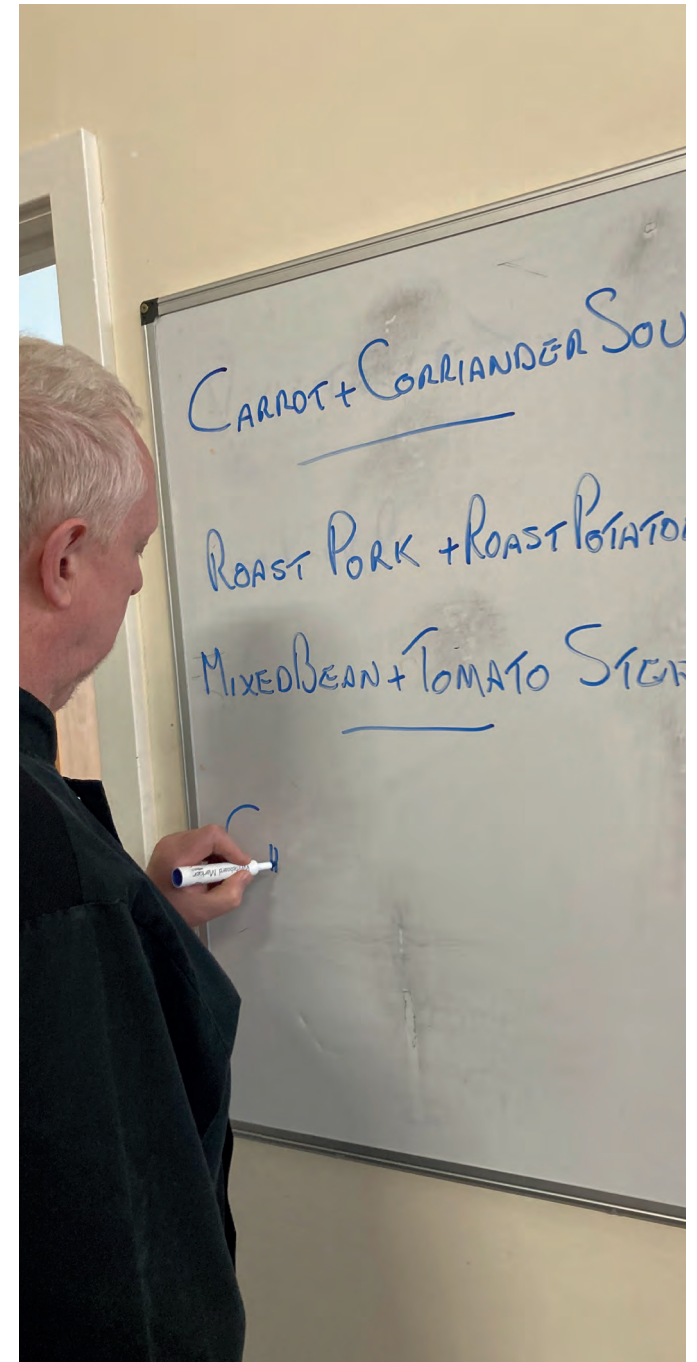
From June 2022 Caritas employed an Accessibility Coordinator to begin the work of ensuring that we are accessible to all who want to attend our projects and join in our activities. The Catholic Fellowship funded 50% of this role and act as a valuable link within the diocese. During this period, people have been supported to increase their knowledge and understanding of what constitutes accessibility needs and our responsibilities to support them.

Caritas is working to ask all people if there are any support needs that need addressing so that they can access our services. By doing this, we are striving to co-produce solutions by involving, asking, acting and then reviewing. We have been carrying out reviews of our projects to understand how well we function as an organisation. Talking about disability and accessibility has helped to reduce the taboo that some people feel. This in turn helps people feel safe to disclose their needs

and be confident that we will work with people to find positive outcomes.

We have also been working with parishes and clergy in the Diocese of Salford to improve awareness and accessibility for people in parishes. Part of this has involved identifying training needs, developing best practise guidelines, and highlighting good practise to replicate.

To be as accessible as possible, Caritas is promoting the concept of “Universal Design” to try and reduce the need for adjustments by removing as many barriers as possible that could affect people from the design of project delivery. One such example of this that now is standard in both Caritas and the Diocese of Salford is releasing videos with captions of the spoken word.



Some headlines from our accessibility work this year include:

- **10** accessibility awareness sessions delivered to **118** people
- **26** individuals attended an initial Hate Crime Awareness Community Shared Lunch event, with **20** attending a second event
- **4** clergy supported in improving sign language access within the diocese
- **9** Masses and other celebrations have been signed
- BSL interpreters have been co-ordinated for **4** large events in the Diocese of Salford to support and highlight the needs and inclusion of D/deaf people in events.
- **25** others have also been supported to improve sign language access
- Visits have also been carried out to local parishes and services
- **3** volunteer accessibility advocates have been appointed as part of a pilot scheme and supported in their role



“ In the few short months that we have been in place as volunteer accessibility advocate, we have seen a real culture shift within the parish. Parishioners are open in discussing their accessibility needs and seem more comfortable using (and being seen using) accessibility aids. We’re excited to see how our parish continues to evolve in the future. ”

Volunteer accessibility advocate

“ I learnt so much about how deafness affects a person and how important it is for us to become inclusive and have sign language as part of our parish, community and life. ”

Accessibility session attendee

Caritas Bishop's Fund:

The Caritas Bishop's Fund is for families across the diocese facing challenge or crisis. This may be for various reasons due to illness or unemployment, job insecurity and the rising costs of energy and food. The O'Halloran fund is for Manchester residents only.

The purpose of the funds is to provide immediate support to families or individuals, those facing a crisis or those disadvantaged who cannot by their own means access money for specific things such as beds, whitegoods, school uniform and food.

Demand for the fund has increased this year due to the cost-of-living crisis as more people locally have found themselves in poverty or facing disadvantage and isolation.

This year **90** people - **25** adults and **65** children - have used the service, with **49** accessing the Bishops Fund. This year we have also supported with travel costs such as bus passes for families in need.

Caritas Bishop's Fund - Grant Making Policy

Caritas Salford operates a compassionate grant making policy through the Bishop's Fund, offering small grants of up to £500 to individuals or families grappling with personal crises or hardship.

This dedicated grant fund is a vital resource open to residents across the Diocese of Salford, encompassing Greater Manchester and Salford. Funds to support the grant are received from the Diocese of Salford, the former Mary Strand Trust, the O'Halloran Trust (for Manchester residents only) or from other grants which may be received from time to time.

In light of a surge in demand, the maximum amount accessible to individuals has been adjusted to £500 (from a maximum of £2,000). Trusted partners such as local schools, parishes, and professionals engaged with families enduring poverty play a crucial role in referring cases.

The grants are primarily earmarked for urgent situations and are deliberately intended to have flexibility in order to address and response to diverse needs. Recent examples include as aiding a family displaced by a fire to their home, replacing essential household equipment, or covering transportation expenses for medical treatment not covered by benefits. Grant applications undergo internal independent scrutiny by a minimum of two senior managers, ensuring a thorough review process. Typically, approval is granted within 48 hours. In order to expedite assistance for urgent requirements, partners often cover initial costs, with Caritas reimbursing them upon provision of receipts.”

“The family is struggling financially. School have been able to provide food vouchers and school shoes but unfortunately the oven broke in the family home a few weeks ago. They have tried to replace it, but mum has shared that it is a struggle and there is no way she can save for this. Her youngest two children suffer with asthma and have to sleep with the windows open to ventilate the air flow as the house has damp. As a result of this, the heating bill has risen, they need to keep the youngest two warm, but also need cleaner air otherwise the children suffer with their chests. Mum has sought support from her landlord and has made them aware of the situation, but no help has been given so far. This grant will help the family to buy an oven and have warm cooked meals which mum would like to provide for her family.”

Person requesting support from our Bishops Fund

Volunteering:

Our 263 volunteers support our services and departments across Caritas. We're hugely grateful to every one of our volunteers and couldn't continue our work across Greater Manchester and Lancashire without their kindness and support.

In the reporting year we invested in the further development of the safe and effective delivery of our volunteering services across the organisation by recruiting a volunteer coordinator. This role aims to support Caritas Salford in enhancing the recruitment, selection, induction, and ongoing support for volunteers, particularly in meeting high standards for safe recruitment.

The role is crucial in supporting existing service managers manage their responsibilities for volunteers while also developing practices to ensure volunteers are fulfilled and opportunities are inclusive. The purpose of this role is also to identify and develop opportunities to increase the diversity of volunteers, including those with lived experience of specific challenges, to build confidence and skills and ensuring that Caritas treats all volunteers with fairness and equity.

To maintain a consistent and secure recruitment process, we have implemented a standardised application procedure for volunteering across all our services. We use a volunteer management system, Assemble, to facilitate

the recruitment of volunteers. The application process includes multiple stages to ensure that we follow a uniform procedure, and all the relevant information regarding the status of each application is readily accessible to all service managers. In the reporting period, 34 role profiles were created and added on Assemble, with 25 volunteering opportunities published and viewed by 1748 people.

The advertising and publishing of volunteering opportunities on different platforms, both internally and externally, have successfully diversified the volunteer pool, resulting in a wider range of skills and experiences to draw from.

This has been achieved by increasing interest and applications from people from different backgrounds, with a notable increase in the broadened age range of applicants. Moreover, the volunteer pool has become more diverse with a growing number of applications from non-white backgrounds, particularly from people in the local Chinese community. This has resulted in a more inclusive and diverse volunteer team, with a wider range of skills and experiences to contribute to the organisation's objectives.

We have also worked to establish improved systems to ensure volunteers' data and information is stored in one central location and have reviewed and updated our volunteer policy.

A new volunteer information pack helps give interested people an overview of the volunteering programme at Caritas, and volunteers are also being supported to undertake relevant mandatory training to ensure our services remain safe, effective and compliant in all areas.

“ I'm only where I am because you made me feel I could do it and you never stopped believing in me, which is something that hasn't happened much in my life. ”

Person accessing our services

“ It's very great for me to have the volunteer work in the lovely Caritas Allotment, where I can grow different vegetables and meet different people! As a newcomer from Hong Kong, I wish to continue to help the people in need and contribute to this country. ”

Volunteer



Formation, animation and advocacy:

Caritas works to form and animate our parishes and school communities with the necessary tools to help them put the Church's commitment into practice, in accordance with the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. Our aim is for a positive, transformative impact on the lives of people experiencing poverty, discrimination and disadvantage across the diocese, and within the wider community.

We have continued to build relationships, visibility and credibility across the diocese through mutually collaborative engagement in shared projects and initiatives, and have reconnected with - and accompanied - our diocesan school community at their own pace as they have begun to emerge through the pandemic.

Our team has provided school staff with an opportunity to refresh their knowledge and understanding of Catholic Social Teaching, how it links to the mission of their school, and supported them as they identify where the gaps may be and how they might bridge them.

Many of our parishes have also continued to accept the invitation to appoint a Caritas representative, allowing us to continue to keep in touch with local practical social action projects and provide additional support as required. We would like to thank all of our parish representatives for their dedication and are working to further grow this important network in the coming year.

In response to the cost-of-living crisis, we have created a range of resources for parishes and other local communities to use to help support people in their area. Our how-to guide for setting up a Warm Space was used, for example, by a parish in Eccles to develop a warm welcome prior to Sunday Mass. The project ran from February until late April and visitors included one family from Nigeria who had moved to the UK in 2022. The parents and their three young children benefitted from the project by having time to relax together in a warm and welcoming environment, with the parents enjoying hot refreshments whilst the children played with toys from the parish hall. The feedback received from this parish has also been used by our team to enhance the resource for use by other parishes.

Another example of our team supporting local parishes to put their love into action is a Caritas Parish Rep who has been leading alongside other organisations on the development of their parish presbytery into accommodation for those seeking asylum who are destitute. The Rep liaised with Caritas who supported in linking the Rep and

wider group in with the relevant diocesan teams, and the project will mean that emergency accommodation will be able to be provided to four people seeking asylum who have No Recourse to Public Funds.

The team also signposts parish priests to other Caritas services to support those in need in their community.

We work in partnership with others locally and nationally to help us achieve our strategic aims, including GM Citizens, the diocesan Departments of Formation, Education, and CPDF and Environment. We also convene four annual face to face meetings of DiSAN members (Catholic charities and organisations operating within the Diocese of Salford).

Our advocacy work has also continued to build in strength, with additional investment made in capacity to enable our strategic ambitions to be better delivered by our Advocacy, Policy and Research Coordinator.

Through our advocacy work, we aim to call for a more just world where the voices of people

experiencing poverty, disadvantage and isolation are listened to, acted upon and empowered to positively influence the policies, structures, decisions and resources that affect them.

By using 'see, judge/discern, act' principles we research, gather and share information and knowledge in a manner which protects human dignity - especially from the lived experiences of the people we work alongside, and on the underlying causes and effects of social problems in our communities. We also lead appropriate campaigning activities to act upon these to achieve tangible positive outcomes.

Research of local need across the diocese has taken place and is ongoing, helping us to shape and develop areas for policy work and advocacy. Local data has been collected which will be used to inform ongoing work and we have also contributed to a call for evidence from the Commission on the Integration of Refugees regarding the experiences of the integration of people who are refugees and asylum seekers. We researched and reported on the lived experience of individuals who access our services and the commission aims to inform and advise key policy makers on some of the current barriers to positive integration, a wider understanding on the impacts of this, and provide suggestions and a compelling case for change on a national level.

Partnership working has continued to be of paramount importance this year, and we have

joined several high-profile campaigns such as Homeless Link's 'Keep Our Doors Open' and Asylum Matters 'Lift the Ban'. We are key supporters of Greater Manchester Poverty Action.

Being involved in this way, during the early stages of our advocacy development, has allowed us to begin to engage in campaigning, establish our priority areas and increase wider understanding, awareness and agreement of our advocacy aims.

Despite current challenges and uncertainty, our role on the leadership team of GM Citizens provides many opportunities for networking and collaboration and potential for effecting meaningful positive change at a local grass roots level.

We have also continued to create campaigns throughout the year to tie in to key moments such as the Living Wage Campaign, World Day of the Poor, and World Day of Migrants and Refugees, to continue to raise awareness and encourage positive action across our parishes and communities.

“ Our staff session from Caritas gave us lots of ideas to move forward and help support our children with CST...it has created scaffolding for lesson planning and cross curricular delivery.”

Headteacher

Some headlines from this year also include:

- Delivered an introduction to Caritas and Catholic Social Teaching sessions to **420** school staff
- **302** new Caritas Ambassadors trained
- Collaborated with the diocesan and other teams to support Hope in the Future events locally
- **4** DiSAN meetings convened
- **4** Caritas in Practice staff and volunteer induction days delivered
- **12** diocesan CPDF sessions co-delivered
- **15** Universal Synod conversations facilitated across our services
- **365** thought for the day social media posts created and published including input from pupils at our diocesan schools.



Fundraising

The ongoing post-pandemic landscape and cost-of-living crisis have not only significantly increased the number of people who require support from our services, as well as the complexity of their needs, but has also continued to impact fundraising activity.

We have continued to evolve and transform our approach, mitigating risks and maximising opportunities in order to remain financially viable, but it remains a challenging time as we face increased costs alongside a significant uplift in demand for our services.

Individual giving campaigns performed well this year, with all appeals raising more compared to the previous period.

Legacy income this year had a significant impact on total voluntary income, down from £195,809 in 2021-2022 to just £80,479 in this reporting period. This reflects a wider trend in the sector, caused by delays in probate following the pandemic, which saw some exceptional items in the previous year. Our response to this has been to ensure legacy giving is given a significant focus, alongside creatively maintaining and growing our supporter base.

We are continuing to invest in ambitious, visible fundraising campaigns that attract both our loyal supporters from parishes and schools but also seek to expand our influence to other demographics to promote long-term sustainability.

Our income from grants in this reporting period increased from £697,603 to more than £1million, and we are proud to have continued to retain, develop and expand relationships with grant funders and supporters.

Corporate relationship building continues to develop across the charity. Through our involvement in the networking group Freshwalks, we were offered a pro-bono partnership by a creative agency in Manchester called Doodledo. They worked with us on our campaign for Advent 2022, spending time in our day centre and chatting to staff, volunteers and people accessing help. They then created and helped to fund a short animation film at a fifth of the cost to us as it cost them in professional time.

We continue to make significant inroads into developing new income streams, whilst ensuring income from existing ones is maximised. We are developing and enhancing approaches that will convert donors from giving once to giving monthly, and promoting opportunities for people to remember their loved ones through an in-memory giving page.

Telling the stories of people accessing our services and communicating them to help support our fundraising and other work has also been vital during the last year. Our new marketing and communications strategy has supported this work in improving recognition and understanding of our charity and our work, as well as beginning to broaden our reach to new audiences across Greater Manchester and Lancashire.

We are extremely and sincerely grateful to all of our supporters for their continued support - especially during the cost-of-living crisis.



Where we're going... our vision for 2030 and beyond?

In 2021 following the impact of Covid-19, we began the implementation of a three-year strategic plan to restructure our services, expand and develop our work to support parishes, schools and increase our advocacy and campaigning activity. In spite of uncertainty and volatility in the environment caused by the pandemic and the subsequent economic turmoil we are on target to achieve our goals of ensuring Caritas Salford remains a safe place for people in crisis seeking support.

As we approach the end of that cycle the Trustees and Senior Leadership Team have begun a process of looking towards the future vision and mission for the charity. At a time of great complexity and ambiguity, the Trustees are eager to continue to explore the issues that face communities across Salford Diocese and ensure that they are suitably equipped to deliver credible and sustainable support. This will continue during the current year with a new strategy plan to be launched in 2024.

Part of this has included the Trustees and Senior Leadership examining their current services and particularly the buildings and properties where they are delivered. Such developments will be vital in ensuring we can continue to offer services in an environment which is welcoming and safe, sustainable and reflects the values of human dignity afforded to all. We are especially grateful

to the team from Muse Developments and OMI architects for their corporate support and who have been assisting in examining and shaping our capital planning on a pro bono basis. This activity will continue to be developed in the coming year.

“ For me, it's the isolation, that's what gets me down. I come here and you are all kind to me, I meet my friends, play games, do some art and crafts and have a great time. Honestly it's the best bit of my week. I love coming here. ”

Person accessing our services

“ I can't tell you how much this means to have support. Things are so hard at the moment and I'm really grateful for everything you do. My boys don't know where the food comes from, but they know they will be fed. ”

Person accessing our services



Governance and management:

Caritas Diocese of Salford is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association from our Incorporation May 2008. This document outlines our charitable objects which are primarily to further the general charitable objects of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Salford by providing services and facilities for the relief of poverty, advancement of education and promotion of social justice, and other charitable acts which promote individual and community development for the public benefit, for people of all faiths and none. The charity's work is directed to children and young people, people with disabilities, those who are vulnerable including individuals and families, communities and groups in need.

Good governance is fundamental to the success of any charitable organisation. It enables and promotes a clear structure that not only ensures compliance with the law and relevant regulations but most importantly promotes a culture which everything we do works towards fulfilling our mission. With this in mind, the Trustees have adopted the latest Charity Governance Code (2020).

The trustees of Caritas Salford support the incorporation of the code into their collective behaviour and where this is not possible will explain why this is not possible.

The trustees ensure Caritas Salford's compliance with the law and relevant regulations and promoting a culture where the charity works towards fulfilling its vision and mission is the rationale for the trustees practice and governance.

All trustees have undergone safeguarding and health and safety training.

Appointment to the Board of Management is by election of the members by a simple majority. All nominations must have first been approved by the Bishop who is a member of the Board and its chairperson. New trustees undergo an induction process to brief them on their legal obligations under Charity and Company Law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and decision-making processes, operational structures, the strategic plan, the financial projections and the recent financial performance of the charity. During the induction process new trustees meet with key operational employees.

Trustees are encouraged to attend training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role. Each trustee takes an area of special interest in the work of the charity.

Structure

The trustees of Caritas Salford are committed to ensuring that the charity is able to deliver its charitable mission effectively for the public benefit. They recognise and understand their roles and legal responsibility and are committed to ensuring the charity is governed effectively and support continual improvement.

To ensure this trustees support the strategic direction of the charity and monitor performance through regular meetings of the Board of Trustees. The trustees meet four times per year and, through the creation of a dedicated Caritas Committee which acts as a general purposes committee. This group of trustees hold further meetings during the year where they work to closely monitor and oversee strategic and operational performance, working in partnership with the Director and Leadership Team.

This group of trustees is supplemented by the co-opted membership of the Bishop's Delegate, an Episcopal Vicar, Father Gerald Murphy, who has pastoral oversight of charitable works in the diocese. In addition to the general matters discussed at the Caritas Committee meeting, the trustees have established a Health and Safety Committee which meets each quarter to review safety strategy and performance.

The Senior Leadership Team meets routinely with a formal extended meeting each month to look at overall organisational performance and have particular attention on matters regarding to safety and safeguarding. Regular reports on all aspects of the charity's work are provided to trustees both in advance of formal meetings and on an ongoing basis.

Management

The Director is appointed by the trustees to manage the day to day operations of the charity. To preserve the mission, ethos and values of the charity, the trustees have determined that the post of Director retains the occupational requirement that the individual must be in sympathy with the teachings of the Catholic Church as enunciated by the Bishop of Salford.

The Director is charged with the duty of accounting to the Board and making recommendations on plans and policy, The director is assisted by the Senior Leadership Team.

During 2022/23 we reorganised our management structure so that in addition to the Director, the charities leadership and management is supported by the following team:

- Head of Resources and Support Services - overseeing all aspects of Finance, HR, Property and Central Administration roles.

- Head of Homelessness and Head of Social Action - two senior roles to provide enhanced capacity to support our services.
- Schools Service Manager (now replaced in the current period by the Head of Children and Families) to oversee the schools social work and counselling teams and look at developing

our support to children and families across the Diocese. In addition to these senior leadership positions, a wider team of other managers across the organisation from formation, HR, fundraising, communications attend the leadership team meetings to contribute to discussions and provide direct input.



Ongoing supervision and appraisal is at the heart of the operational management system of the charity. Managers and Service Co-ordinators from across the organisation meeting on a monthly basis through the newly created 'Leadership Forum', which discusses standing items such as health and safety, safeguarding and other compliance issues alongside issues which affect the whole organisation.

In 2022, we held our first whole staff conference at a dedicated centre in Manchester where the vast majority of our staff were able to meet, understand the services they contribute to as part of the whole organisation and consult them on broader matters for the future. We were supported in this by external facilitators who helped animate and record the day. In addition, staff are invited to take part in quarterly pulse surveys where they indicate how they are feeling and provide direct feedback (anonymously if they wish). The reports are reviewed by the Senior Leadership Team and, as far as practicable, build on the areas identified for action.

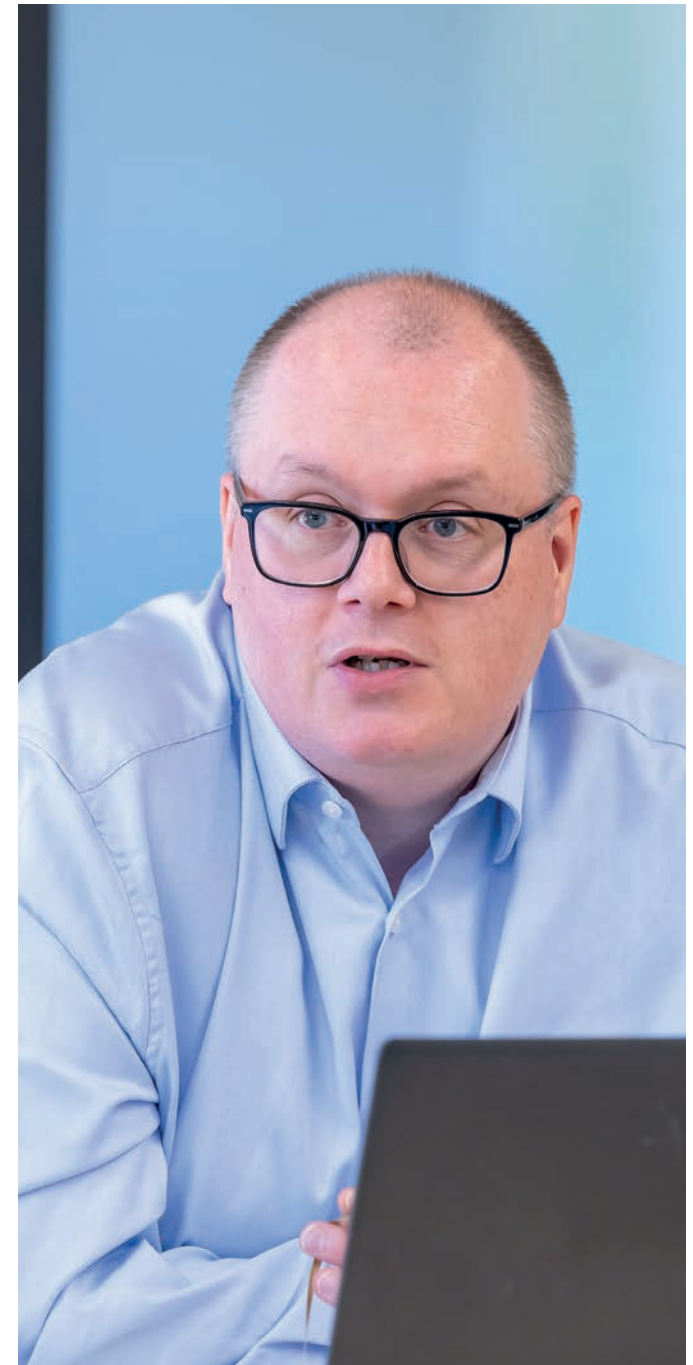
All employees and volunteers are required to complete mandatory training which is relevant to their role as well as being offered other opportunities for personal development, further training, promotion and career development opportunities within their roles. Every member of staff has an annual appraisal based on their performance throughout the year.

In addition to induction to their specific role and service, all new staff also attend organisation-wide induction at our main office. The purpose of this is to give staff and volunteers the opportunity to learn more about the underpinning values, mission and strategy for the charity, understand about their role and how it fits into our wider work and learn about other services and how this contributes to the whole of Caritas Salford's work.

Governance information, training opportunities and good practice seminars are available to Trustees, staff and volunteers; senior staff members have direct links to other charities to promote information sharing and ensure that good practice and new ideas are brought into the charity. From time to time consultants may be employed for specific independent advice.

Commitment to be an employer of choice for staff and a rewarding voluntary experience to people who support the charity's mission and values remains a high priority for the organisations culture. The following are examples of this:

- Flexibility in working hours
- Low sickness rates
- Improved access for disabled people into employment
- Investment in staff and volunteer training
- Commitment to the Living Wage and nationally recommended inflation uplifts to salaries



Public Benefit Statement

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under sections 4 & 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the public benefit guidance published by The Charity Commission.

The annual report includes a detailed description of the activities undertaken by the charity during the year to further its charitable purposes for the public benefit. The Board has referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing its strategy and objectives and in planning Caritas' future activities. All trustees complete an annual declaration of conflict of interest. The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and has planned Caritas' activities to avoid the granting of any private benefit other than one that is purely incidental to carrying out Caritas' objectives.

Related Parties

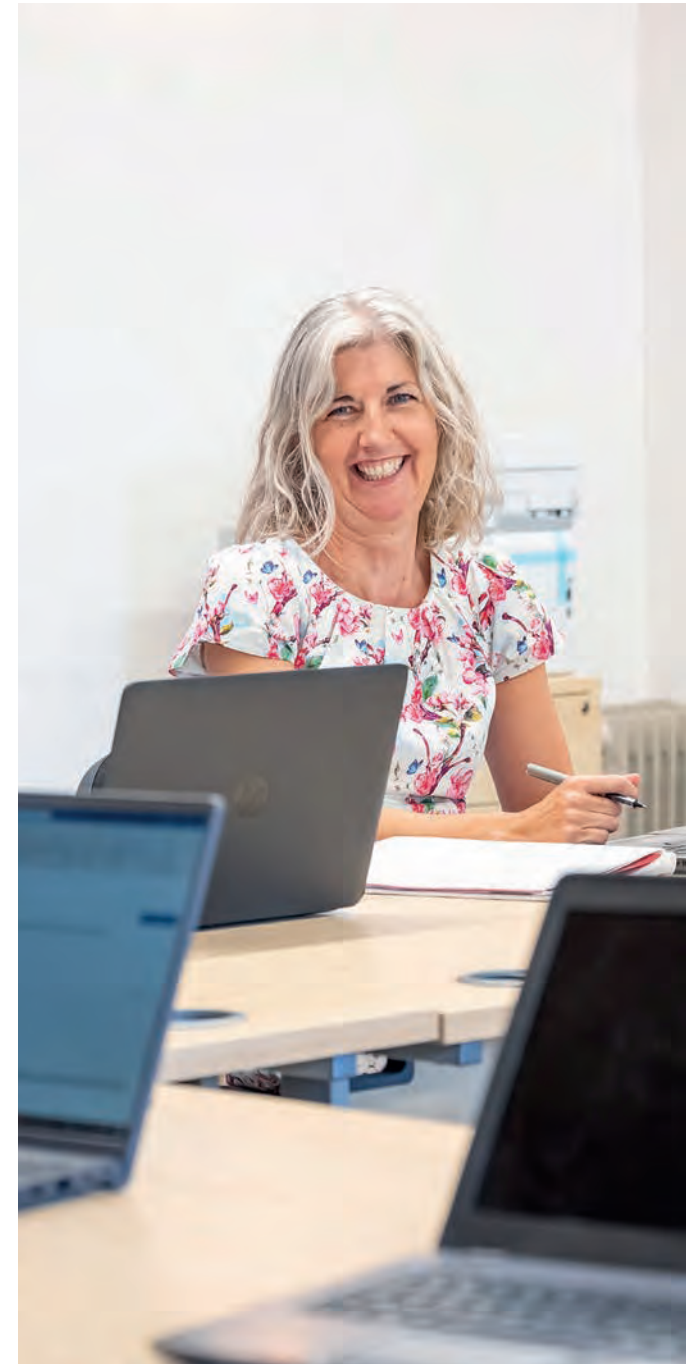
The subsidiary trading company, Caritas Diocese of Salford Trading Limited, which runs the charity shop, is a related party.

The Bishop of Salford, by virtue of his right to Trustee membership as chairperson and to appoint Trustee members, is a related party of the company.

The Trustees of The Diocese of Salford (also known as the Salford Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity Number 250037) are also the Trustees of Caritas Diocese of Salford and by virtue of this are a related party.

Pay Policy for Senior Staff

The Board of Trustees is responsible for directing and controlling, running and operating the charity. All trustees and committee members give of their time freely and no trustee or committee member received remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in the year. The pay of all staff is reviewed annually and, subject to affordability, staff are awarded a cost-of-living increase. Traditionally, though at their absolute discretion, trustees have taken note of the uplifts awarded on the basis of the recommendations of the National Joint Council. Due to the extra-ordinary pressures facing everyone due to the high levels of inflation and cost of utilities, trustees took the decision in advance of the new financial year to award an increase of 2.75% to staff in advance of the awaited settlement by the National Joint Council. All staff received the 2.75% pay increase, and lower paid staff also received an additional increase to their pay. Following these steps to alleviate the cost of living challenges and to support the retention of valued staff members, Caritas also followed the recommendations of the NJC to increase salaries from April 2023.



Safeguarding

Caritas has an established safeguarding policy which was extensively re-written by external professional advisors in 2021 and has been updated in 2023 to reflect ongoing practice. The Charity follows safe recruitment and selection processes for all paid and volunteer roles and seeks to ensure as far as reasonably practicable that people who are short-listed and selected for job vacancies have the skills, experience and level of disclosure that are relevant to the posts. Suitability is tested by means of an application form and a formal interview with a panel of at least two senior members of staff. A probationary period and supervision confirm the appointment of staff, and ongoing supervision, mandatory training and an annual appraisal is also in place following appointment. Caritas obtains Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks on all staff members or volunteers who may be working with people in unsupervised contexts or where it is appropriate for their role.

Throughout the year we have continued to expand the implementation of online recording systems for safeguarding concerns, compliments, complaints, incidents and accidents. The enhanced levels of scrutiny by senior managers and the data produced from the system help us see the outputs and outcomes for people experiencing crisis and vulnerability. The safeguarding arrangements for the charity are

regularly reviewed and Mr Edward Nally is the designated trustee for safeguarding.

Health and safety

The health, safety and welfare of our staff, volunteers and most importantly the people who use our services is of the utmost importance and, like safeguarding matters, we have also invested in this area extensively over the past year. Essential improvements to the condition of properties has been a key feature and we will continue to explore the long-term needs for our services to ensure they are not just compliant but reflect our commitment to best practice approaches to matters like psychologically informed environments. The health, safety and welfare policies and procedures have also been updated in 2023 and are regularly reviewed by a designated trustee, Mrs Elizabeth Lilley. Mr Eamonn O'Neal is the lead trustee for the recently formed Capital Projects Planning Team which seeks to consider the vision and long-term use of our buildings.

Concern for the Environment

Bishop John Arnold is the leading bishop in England and Wales for advocating for Care for Creation and as such encourages Caritas to be bold in thinking about reducing our carbon output and minimising our environmental impact. As well

as seeking to increase the amount of recycling of waste, we have also taken steps to reduce energy consumption including the decision to replace our service van with an electric vehicle. Our commitment to effective stewardship of creating remains absolute and we are taking practical steps to deliver this including: Recycling of 100% of general and confidential office waste.

- Significant recycling of household goods and clothing through charitable outlets
- Redistribution of foodstuffs to people experiencing hardship from supermarket, food warehouses and local shops using new technologies to reduce the need for service visits or in-person meetings where appropriate. Education of staff, volunteers and people who use our services on the environmental impact of the charity.

At the same time, we are also mindful that some of the buildings we operate now need major investment to reduce the carbon footprint and we are working with specialist advisors on how we can deliver this in the future.

Living Wage

Caritas is an accredited Living Wage employer recognised by the Living Wage Foundation. Organisations that pay the real Living Wage have reported significant improvement in the quality of work, reductions in staff absence and a stronger

corporate reputation. Over the past year (in line with our modern slavery approach, see below) we have been working closely with contractors and suppliers to adopt the scheme and arranged that all of them sign up to a code of conduct where they agree to work towards the real Living Wage for all their employees.

Modern Slavery

Research indicates that modern slavery exists in the supply chain of nearly every business and organisation and through our on the ground services we are often confronted by the reality of this as we respond to those who are experiencing or at risk of modern slavery. All staff receive training on how to identify, respond and record instances of modern slavery and through investment in new, unified recording systems, we are able to quickly provide appropriate support and referral.

We have proactively worked to identify and eliminate risks in our supply chain and are proud to be collaborating with the Diocese of Salford and its subsidiary organisations in the release of a new Modern Slavery statement released in February 2022 and embedded through our statement with suppliers. Building on the existing work of Caritas staff and volunteers to tackle human trafficking, our partnership with the Medaille Trust, we have encouraged parishes to take proactive steps to end Modern Slavery and

raised awareness of how to report concerns or seek advice.

Trustees continue to opt for ethical investments through the Catholic Fund operated in line with Catholic moral and social teaching by CCLA and we are pleased to be closely associated with their 'Find it, Fix it, Prevent it' initiative which is focused on eliminating the risk of modern slavery in investment funds which support the charity's revenue. We intend to continue this work over the coming year to ensure that people at risk are protected and supported.

Fundraising Regulation

Caritas is a member of the Fundraising Regulator - the independent regulator of charitable fundraising. As such we comply with the Code of Fundraising Practice and Fundraising Promise.

Our policies and procedures comply with the Code and supporter contact is in line with data protection legislation. The charity does carry out fundraising activities requiring disclosure under the Charities Act 2011. Caritas employs an Income Generation Manager who delivers against an approved fundraising strategy. In addition, from time to time freelance or self-employed people may be taken on to research grant opportunities or evaluate projects for the purpose of applying to trusts and grant makers. Whenever appointed such a person acting on behalf of the charity will

be subject to an undertaking to be bound by the voluntary scheme for regulating fundraising as set out by our membership to the Fundraising Standards ethical code. The activities of the person will also be monitored and the person will be required to comply fully with the scheme and standards.

We received one complaint with regards to fundraising during the financial year 2022-23 from the son of a donor with a regular monthly standing order. Caritas had previously been notified that the donor (his father) was in his 90s, vulnerable and isolating and not to make contact. Due to human error, the updated details on the donor's record was not picked up at the next fundraising appeal. A complaint was received in August 2022, but resolved without referral to the Fundraising Regulator or ICO. A rigorous review of supporter data management practice was subsequently carried out with training support from the CRM provider (Donorfy). An additional half day of GDPR/data protection training was invested in and attended by income development staff.

How we protect vulnerable supporters

As part of our professional practice and reflection of Safeguarding each month, fundraising staff refer to the Fundraising Regulator's (FR) Code

of Practice, with close attention paid to 1.3.9 of the Code, i.e. does a person lack capacity to make a decision to donate or is in vulnerable circumstances, which mean they are not able to make an informed decision? We discuss and document any concerns whatsoever about a donor's support and/or behaviour. For example, if an individual is making extraordinarily large gifts, or gifts that are little and often without a clear pattern and any contact we have had with that person (in person, over the phone, in writing) and if there is anything that indicates any vulnerability i.e., forgetfulness, distress, vagueness, mention of illness, multiple donations in the same day/week. Where we consider a person to be vulnerable, we will ensure they no longer receive communication from Caritas that might be perceived as solicitation of further financial support. If we consider a donation to be received whilst without capacity, we would arrange for this to be refunded.

Data protection

To ensure that the personal and sensitive data of people who use our services alongside our staff and volunteers is protected, we have begun a comprehensive review into our data protection policies, procedures and practices to ensure that these are consistent across the organisation. With effect from January 2023, we have appointed an external provider, Hope and May (an NCVO trusted

supplier) to provide professional advice and act as our data protection officer. At the time of compiling this report, we are a considerable way through the review and have begun updating our policies and practices.

Risk Management

The Trustees are committed to maintaining a strong risk management framework. Their aim is to ensure that the charity makes every effort to manage risk appropriately by maximising potential opportunities while minimising the adverse effects of risks. In February 2023, the Trustees adopted a new risk management policy and risk register to ensure that all governance, strategic, operational, financial and regulatory and compliance risks, regardless of whether they are internally or externally driven are considered and mitigated to avoid adverse affect on the quality and financial stability of the charity.

Principal risks and uncertainties that the trustees see as facing the charity are identified, assessed and recorded in the charity risk assessment which also summarises detailed actions that are necessary for the charity to take to reduce, mitigate or control those risks.

One of the principal risks includes the financial pressures caused by the current cost-of-living crisis, demands on our services and high levels

of inflation. Trustees are taking steps to ensure the long-term financial stability of the charity by engaging with funders including statutory commissioners to ensure that funding remains available and where this is not possible to take appropriate action early to prevent the charity being exposed to vulnerability.

Designated Funds and Reserves

The Trustees are aware of the need to maintain adequate reserves to ensure that the Charity's work can continue. Designated funds are set aside to enable the Trustees to develop specific areas of charitable work and to meet potential future obligations. In addition, the Board has to ensure that adequate resources are available to avoid disruption to any of the Charity's services, when impacted by the volatile and uncertain nature of the Charity's income.

To ensure that services can be maintained in the short term, the Trustees have unrestricted general funds of £1,465,858 (2022 - £1,171,106), which represents approximately 4.8 months (2022 - 4.4 months) running costs, based on revenue costs of £3,665,193. It is the Trustees' intention to maintain this fund at between three and six months' running costs. This equates to a target of between £916,298 and £1,832,596 and hence we are within the target range.

In addition, the Trustees have set aside a

designated fund of £2,649,901 (2022 - £2,606,568), which represents the net book value of fixed assets and a designated fund of £4,584,178 (2022 - £5,075,652), which represents the net book value of investments funded from unrestricted funds at the year-end. The Trustees do not have a designated timeframe for the expenditure of this fund on the basis that the revenue generated is used to support ongoing services.

The Trustees have also decided that it is prudent to set aside a designated fund that represents accrued obligations to staff for redundancy. The balance on this fund of £475,100 (2022 - £419,480), represents the fully accrued obligation.

A designated pension reserve is no longer required (2022 - £879,000) as the defined benefit pension liability has been derecognised on transfer to the Guarantor on the 30 September 2022.

The consolidated free reserves as at 31 March 2023 are £1,465,858 (2022 - £1,171,106). This is calculated as unrestricted reserves less restricted reserves and designated reserves (including an amount for tangible fixed assets) and is in effect the available resources the charity has.

Ethical Investment Policy

Caritas trustees intentionally invest in line with the values and principles of the charity while still earning a just and sufficient return on investment to help fund the charity's work. Caritas policy

is also informed by the UK Stewardship Code of the Financial Reporting Council and the United Nations Principals for Responsible Investment. The charity has adopted a comprehensive Reserves and Investment Policy Statement was drawn up, ratified by the Board and implemented.

The policy, reviewed annually, describes the financial position and objectives of the Board at the time of writing with the stated intent that they will be reviewed regularly. The investment policy target return is 5% per annum. Having considered their financial position, the Board are agreed that part of the available cash in excess of the required statutory reserves should be assigned to investments. To this end the Board has invested with CCLA Investment Management Limited in their pooled funds on an execution only basis.

The assets within the Funds are managed by CCLA and, since the launch of their Catholic Investment Fund in April 2021, the Trustees determined to transfer assets into this fund in line with the 'faith consistent investment policy'. This fund and the associated policies have been designed to reflect the teachings and mission of the Catholic Church. The policy is made up of a combination of ethical restrictions, that are targeted to avoid investing in companies whose activities contradict Catholic teaching and activities conducted by CCLA (such as corporate engagement) that seek to promote the common good.

The performance of the portfolio is measured

against a composite index set by the Investment Manager in agreement with the Finance Sub Committee and quarterly reports will be provided to the Committee. The Board considered the possible risks of investing in investments and agreed that monies invested (although not required by the charity in the short to medium term) should not be placed in highly illiquid securities and investments and that the Funds met their needs. The underlying holdings of the Fund may be invested in illiquid assets, but not to the extent that it would restrict withdrawals if needed. The Board agreed that a moderate risk balanced asset allocation profile be adopted but with the monies intended to be held for the long term. Ethical constraints were considered and the Fund(s) chosen were made to best suit the charity's ethical stance.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Caritas Diocese of Salford for the purposes of Company Law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). Company Law 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently, make judgments 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
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business
- Keep proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the

financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006

- Safeguard the assets of the charitable company and take reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Financial Statements comply with current UK statutory requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS102).

The Trustees' Appreciation:

The trustees express their appreciation of the devotion and commitment of individuals, parishes, schools and religious communities to give, learn about, pray and take action to promote the mission of the charity. The trustees are grateful for the generosity of all supporters. This voluntary activity is the bedrock of all Caritas' work and much of this activity is sustained by our network of dedicated volunteers. Each year, Caritas benefits from the generosity of the people of the Diocese of Salford who support, organise fundraising events and who make individual donations and bequests, The trustees' gratitude therefore extends to our individual donors and funders who continue to show their

confidence in our work through their support.

In addition, the trustees extend their gratitude to the employees and to the volunteers whose professionalism, commitment and personal values have enabled the charity to achieve so much during the year.

Provision of Information to Auditors:

Each of the persons who are trustees at the same time when this trustees' report is approved has confirmed that, so far as that trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and the trustees have taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a trustee in order to be aware of any information needed by the charitable company's auditors in connection with preparing their report and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

Crowe U.K. LLP have indicated its willingness to be reappointed as statutory auditor.

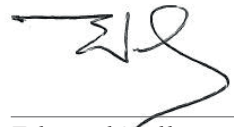
Approval

This report, which incorporates the Strategic Report, was approved by the trustees

On 21st September 2023 and signed on their behalf



Right Reverend John Arnold - Bishop of Salford



Edward Nally

Trustee & company secretary



Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Caritas Diocese of Salford

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Caritas Diocese of Salford ('the charitable company') and its subsidiary ('the group') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Charity Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated Balance Sheet, the Charity Balance Sheet and the Consolidated Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of the group's income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.



Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's or the group's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other

information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 52, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.



Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Details of the extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations are set out below.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We identified and assessed the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements from irregularities, whether due to fraud or error, and discussed these between our audit team members. We then designed and performed audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charitable company and group operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 together with the Charities SORP (FRS 102). We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the charitable company's and the group's ability to operate or to

avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company and the group for fraud. The laws and regulations we considered in this context for the UK operations were Employment Legislation.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be within the timing of recognition of grant, contract, legacy and donation income and the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, reviewing regulatory correspondence with the Charity Commission and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance. Our audit procedures in relation to income included sample testing of donation, legacy, grant and contract income.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have

properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.



Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Michael Jayson

Senior Statutory Auditor

For and on behalf of

Crowe U.K. LLP

Statutory Auditor

The Lexicon

Mount Street

Manchester

M2 5NT

6th October 2023

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account) For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

		Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total fund:	Total funds
		2023	2023	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£
INCOME					
Donations and legacies	2	91,219	720,109	715,328	769,229
Other trading activities	3	-	32,045	32,045	30,965
Investment income	4	-	139,229	139,229	110,734
Other Income	6	2,700	317,323	320,023	-
Exceptional Income	18	-	879,000	879,000	-
Charitable activities	5	<u>547,453</u>	<u>1,873,283</u>	<u>2,420,736</u>	<u>2,046,504</u>
TOTAL INCOME		<u>641,372</u>	<u>3,960,989</u>	<u>4,602,361</u>	<u>2,957,502</u>
EXPENDITURE					
Raising funds	8	-	270,956	270,956	143,939
Charitable activities	7	<u>615,285</u>	<u>2,769,306</u>	<u>3,384,591</u>	<u>2,887,939</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>615,285</u>	<u>3,040,262</u>	<u>3,655,547</u>	<u>3,031,878</u>
Net loss on investments	12	<u>-</u>	<u>(81,474)</u>	<u>(81,474)</u>	<u>374,270</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		<u>26,087</u>	<u>839,253</u>	<u>865,340</u>	<u>299,894</u>
Transfers		<u>58,022</u>	<u>(58,022)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET INCOME BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS / (LOSSES)		<u>84,109</u>	<u>781,231</u>	<u>865,340</u>	<u>299,894</u>
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	18	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>694,000</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>84,109</u>	<u>781,231</u>	<u>865,340</u>	<u>993,894</u>
FUND BALANCES AT 1 APRIL 2022		<u>408,767</u>	<u>8,393,806</u>	<u>8,802,573</u>	<u>7,808,679</u>
FUND BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2023	15	<u>492,876</u>	<u>9,175,037</u>	<u>9,667,913</u>	<u>8,802,573</u>

All activities relate to continuing operations.

The notes on pages 64-105 form part of these financial statements.

CHARITY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account) For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

		Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
		2023	2023	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£
INCOME					
Donations and legacies	2	91,219	727,825	819,044	779,175
Other trading activities	3	-	5,670	5,670	6,743
Investment income	4	-	139,229	139,229	110,734
Other Income	6	2,700	317,323	320,023	-
Exceptional Income	18	-	879,000	879,000	-
Charitable activities	5	<u>547,453</u>	<u>1,873,283</u>	<u>2,420,736</u>	<u>2,046,504</u>
TOTAL INCOME		<u>641,372</u>	<u>3,942,330</u>	<u>4,583,702</u>	<u>2,943,156</u>
EXPENDITURE					
Raising funds	8	-	251,603	251,603	128,589
Charitable activities	7	<u>615,285</u>	<u>2,769,306</u>	<u>3,384,591</u>	<u>2,887,939</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>615,285</u>	<u>3,020,909</u>	<u>3,636,194</u>	<u>3,016,528</u>
Net loss on investments	12	-	<u>(81,474)</u>	<u>(81,474)</u>	<u>374,270</u>
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE)		26,087	839,947	866,034	300,898
Transfers		<u>58,022</u>	<u>(58,022)</u>	-	-
NET INCOME BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS / (LOSSES)		84,109	781,925	866,034	300,898
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	18	-	-	-	<u>694,000</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		84,109	781,925	866,034	994,898
FUND BALANCES AT 1 APRIL 2022		<u>408,767</u>	<u>8,377,635</u>	<u>8,786,402</u>	<u>7,791,504</u>
FUND BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2023	15	<u>492,876</u>	<u>9,159,560</u>	<u>9,652,436</u>	8,786,402

All activities relate to continuing operations.

The notes on pages 64-105 form part of these financial statements.

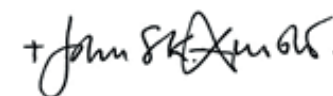


CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

Registered Number: 06594417. As at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible fixed assets	11	2,649,893		2,606,563	
Investments	12	<u>5,584,177</u>		<u>6,075,651</u>	
			8,234,070		8,682,214
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	536,317		327,645	
Cash at bank		<u>1,047,154</u>		<u>922,511</u>	
		1,583,471		1,250,156	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(149,627)</u>		<u>(250,797)</u>	
CURRENT ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			1,433,843		999,359
Defined benefit pension liability	18		-		<u>(879,000)</u>
NET ASSETS			<u>9,667,913</u>		<u>8,802,573</u>
CONSOLIDATED FUNDS					
Restricted Funds	15		492,876		408,767
Unrestricted - Designated Funds	15		7,709,179		7,222,700
Unrestricted - General Funds	15		<u>1,465,858</u>		<u>1,171,106</u>
			<u>9,667,913</u>		<u>8,802,573</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Members of the Trustee Board on 21st September 2023 and signed on their behalf by



Right Reverend John Arnold
Bishop of Salford
Trustee



Edward Nally
Trustee

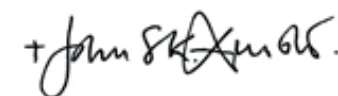
The notes on pages 64-105 form part of these financial statements.

CHARITY BALANCE SHEET

Registered Number: 06594417. As at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible fixed assets	11	2,649,893		2,606,563	
Investments	12	<u>5,584,178</u>		<u>6,075,652</u>	
			8,234,071		8,682,215
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	534,884		326,829	
Cash at bank		<u>1,044,083</u>		<u>919,440</u>	
		1,578,967		1,246,269	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(160,602)</u>		<u>(263,082)</u>	
CURRENT ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			1,418,365		983,187
Defined benefit pension liability	18		-	<u>(879,000)</u>	
NET ASSETS			<u>9,652,436</u>		<u>8,786,402</u>
CHARITY FUNDS					
Restricted Funds	15		492,876		408,767
Unrestricted - Designated Funds	15		7,709,179		7,222,700
Unrestricted - General Funds	15		<u>1,450,381</u>		<u>1,154,935</u>
			<u>9,652,436</u>		<u>8,786,402</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Members of the Trustee Board on 21st September 2023 and signed on their behalf by



Right Reverend John Arnold
Bishop of Salford
Trustee



Edward Nally
Trustee

The notes on pages 64-105 form part of these financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>(1,828,179)</u>	<u>182,136</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of property plant and equipment	(118,129)	(11,470)
Disposal of investments	410,000	(162,590)
Sale of investments	1,523,000	-
Interest received	2,051	-
Disposal of fixed assets	<u>135,900</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>1,952,822</u>	<u>(174,060)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalent in the reporting period	124,643	8,076
Cash and cash equivalent at beginning of the period	<u>922,511</u>	<u>914,435</u>
Cash and cash equivalent at end of period	<u>1,047,154</u>	<u>922,511</u>
NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
	2023	2022
	£	£
Net income	865,340	299,894
Unrealised (gain)/loss on investments	81,474	(371,680)
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	74,796	80,291
(Loss)/gain on disposal of fixed assets	(135,900)	53,272
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(208,670)	31,747
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(101,168)	40,542
Interest received	(2,051)	-
Purchase of investment	(1,523,000)	-
Decrease in stock	-	10,070
Transfer of defined benefit pension deficit	(879,000)	-
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	<u>-</u>	<u>38,000</u>
NET CASH OUTFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	<u>(1,828,179)</u>	<u>182,136</u>



ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash in hand	<u>1,047,154</u>	<u>922,511</u>

RECONCILIATION OF NET DEBT

	At 1 April 2022	Cash flow	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£
Cash at hand and in bank	<u>922,511</u>	<u>124,643</u>	<u>1,047,154</u>



The notes on pages 64-105 form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Caritas Diocese of Salford meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

1.2 Company information

The charity is a company limited by guarantee (registered number 06594417) which is incorporated and domiciled in the UK. The address of the registered office is Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP.

1.3 Going concern

Planning for the future in such uncertain times has created significant challenges, however the forecasts, budgets and cash flow projections have been amended for the expected impact on the charity. The trustees have reviewed the financial information and have the view that the charity has adequate resources to continue its activities for the foreseeable future and consider that there were no material uncertainties over the charity's financial viability. The level of liquidity and reserves of the charity give confidence that we will be able to operate fully beyond the next 12 months. Caritas continues to operate in a difficult funding environment and services will be adapted to operate with the funds available. Caritas will continue to review our reserves policy taking into account the current risks.

1.4 Consolidated financial statements

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charity and its subsidiary undertaking. The consolidation has been undertaken on a line by line basis.

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption available to a qualifying entity in FRS 102 from the requirement to present a charity only cash flow statement with the consolidated accounts.

1.5 Company status

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 84. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity.

1.6 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

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

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

1.7 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. For legacies, entitlement is the earlier of the Charity being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received.

Gifts in kind donated for distribution are included at valuation and recognised as income when they are distributed to the projects. Gifts donated for resale are included as income when they are sold.

Donated facilities are included at the value to the Charity where this can be quantified and a third party is bearing the cost. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

Intangible income, which comprises donated services, is included in income at a valuation which is an estimate of the financial cost borne by the donor where such a cost is quantifiable and measurable. No income is recognised where there is no financial cost borne by a third party.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

1.8 Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Fund raising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the Charity and include project management carried out at Headquarters. Support costs have been allocated to charitable activities on the basis of time spent. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with governance and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

1.9 Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. Where investment assets are subject to restrictions on sale, appropriate discounts are applied to their market values. The SOFA includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

1.10 Investment properties

Investment properties are included in the balance sheet at their open market value and are not depreciated.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

1.11 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Motor vehicles	- 20%	straight line
Equipment and tenants improvements	- 20%	straight line
Freehold buildings	- 2%	straight line

1.12 Operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged to the SOFA as incurred.

1.13 Pensions

The Charity operates one defined contribution pension schemes and one defined benefit scheme during the year. The pension charge for the defined contribution pension schemes represents the amounts payable by the Charity to the funds in respect of the year.

On the 31 March 2022 there was a liability recognised in relation to the pension scheme of £879,000. Following negotiations with both the scheme and guarantor, Caritas Diocese of Salford left the scheme on the 30 September 2022. On cessation, all of the assets and liabilities associated with the deferred and pensioner member transferred to the Guarantor (Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council), and, as previously agreed, no cessation payment was required hence the liability associated with the pension scheme has been derecognised following the transfer.

1.14 Financial instruments

The Group has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic Financial Instruments are initially recognised at the transaction value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using an effective interest method. Financial assets

are held at amortised cost, comprising of cash and bank in hand, together with trade and other debtors. Financial liabilities held at amortised cost comprise bank loans and overdrafts, trade and other creditors.

1.15 Donated services and gifts in kind

Donated services and gifts in kind are included in the statement of financial activities where their value is ascertainable and material. The value of the contribution to Caritas is based on either market value or the amount Caritas would have paid for equivalent goods or services. Income is included under donations and legacies. An equal amount of expenditure is included under the relevant category, as determined by the nature of the goods or services. The net impact on the net income or expenditure for the year is nil. Volunteers' time has not been valued and is not included in the accounts.

1.16 Critical accounting judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the entity's accounting policies which are described above, the Trustees

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

are required to make judgments, estimates, assumptions about the carrying value 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 on-going 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 the current and future periods.

The key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are described in the accounting policies and are summarised below:

Fair value of investment properties

When assessing the fair value of investment properties management have taken into consideration the market value of similar properties and the current state of the properties.

Deferred income

When assessing whether income should be deferred, management have taken into consideration whether the income has performance-related conditions or other conditions attached that limit its recognition.

Defined benefit pension schemes

The charity had obligations to pay pension benefits to certain employees who were members of the Greater Manchester Pension Fund (GMPF). Following dialogue with GMPF during the financial year, it was agreed that our outstanding pension liabilities were to be transferred to our guarantor, Manchester City Council on 30 September 2022. For this reason, and because no cessation payment was required, the liability associated with the pension scheme has been derecognised following the transfer. This is shown as an exceptional item within the accounts as described in note 18 of the financial statements.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

Group	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£
Donations	55,524	372,702	428,226
Legacies	-	80,479	80,479
Appeals and collections			
Caritas Sunday and Annual Appeal	3,613	32,046	35,659
Lent Appeal	5,360	42,354	47,714
St Joseph's Penny Collection	-	36,612	36,612
Other events	<u>26,722</u>	<u>155,196</u>	<u>182,638</u>
	<u>91,219</u>	<u>720,109</u>	<u>811,328</u>

Charity	Restricted Fund	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£
Donations	55,524	372,702	428,226
Legacies	-	80,479	80,479
Gift aid from trading subsidiary	-	7,716	7,716
Appeals and collections			
Caritas Sunday and Annual Appeal	3,613	32,046	35,659
Lent Appeal	5,360	42,354	36,612
St Joseph's Penny Collection	-	36,612	47,714
Other events	26,722	155,916	182,638
	<u>91,219</u>	<u>727,825</u>	<u>819,044</u>



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

Group	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£
Donations	236,151	125,426	361,577
Legacies	25,438	170,371	195,809
Appeals and collections			
Caritas Sunday and Annual Appeal	1,024	28,588	29,612
Lent Appeal	4,995	21,333	26,328
St Joseph's Penny Collection	-	20,649	20,649
Other events	<u>80,375</u>	<u>54,949</u>	<u>135,324</u>
	<u>347,983</u>	<u>421,316</u>	<u>769,299</u>

Charity	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£
Donations	236,151	125,426	361,577
Legacies	25,438	170,371	195,809
Gift aid from trading subsidiary	-	9,876	9,876
Appeals and collections			
Caritas Sunday and Annual Appeal	1,024	28,588	29,612
Lent Appeal	4,995	21,333	26,328
St Joseph's Penny Collection	-	20,649	20,649
Other events	<u>80,375</u>	<u>54,949</u>	<u>135,324</u>
	<u>347,983</u>	<u>431,192</u>	<u>779,175</u>



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2023	2023	2023
Group	£	£	£
Trading activities			
- book sales	-	5,670	5,670
- charity shops	-	26,375	26,375
	-	32,045	32,045

OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2023	2023	2023
Charity	£	£	£
Trading activities			
- book sales	-	5,670	5,670
	-	5,670	5,670



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£
Group			
Trading activities			
- book sales	-	6,743	6,743
- charity shops	-	24,222	24,222
	-	30,965	30,965

OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£
Charity			
Trading activities			
- book sales	-	6,743	6,743
	-	6,743	6,743



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

4. INVESTMENT INCOME	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
Group and Charity	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£
Investment Bonds Income	-	14,650	14,650
Dividend income	-	40,002	40,002
Bank interest	-	2,051	2,051
Rents receivable from investment properties	-	82,526	82,526
	-	139,229	139,229

4. INVESTMENT INCOME	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
Group and Charity	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£
Dividend income	-	40,004	40,004
Bank interest	-	654	654
Rents receivable from investment properties	-	70,076	70,076
	-	110,734	110,734



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Grant income	Contract Income	Other income	Rent	Total funds
Group and Charity	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Social work	133,418	605,529	1,470	294,047	1,034,464
Community Services	966,527	123,077	113,232	183,436	1,386,272
	1,099,945	728,606	114,702	477,483	2,420,736

	Grant income	Contract Income	Other income	Rent	Total funds
Group and Charity	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Social work	23,262	609,378	294,306	318,091	1,245,037
Community Services	674,341	-	27,397	99,729	801,467
	697,603	609,378	321,703	417,820	2,046,504



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

6. Other Income

Group and Charity

	Grant income	Contract Income	Other income	Rent	Total funds
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Other Income	5,000	-	174,708	140,315	320,023
Total	5,000	-	174,708	140,315	320,032



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

7. RESOURCES EXPENDED

Group and Charity	Activities		Total 2023 £
	undertaken directly 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	
	Charitable activities		
Social work	998,118	305,534	1,303,652
Community Services	<u>1,593,234</u>	<u>487,705</u>	<u>2,080,939</u>
	<u>2,591,352</u>	<u>793,239</u>	<u>3,384,591</u>



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

7. RESOURCES EXPENDED (continued)

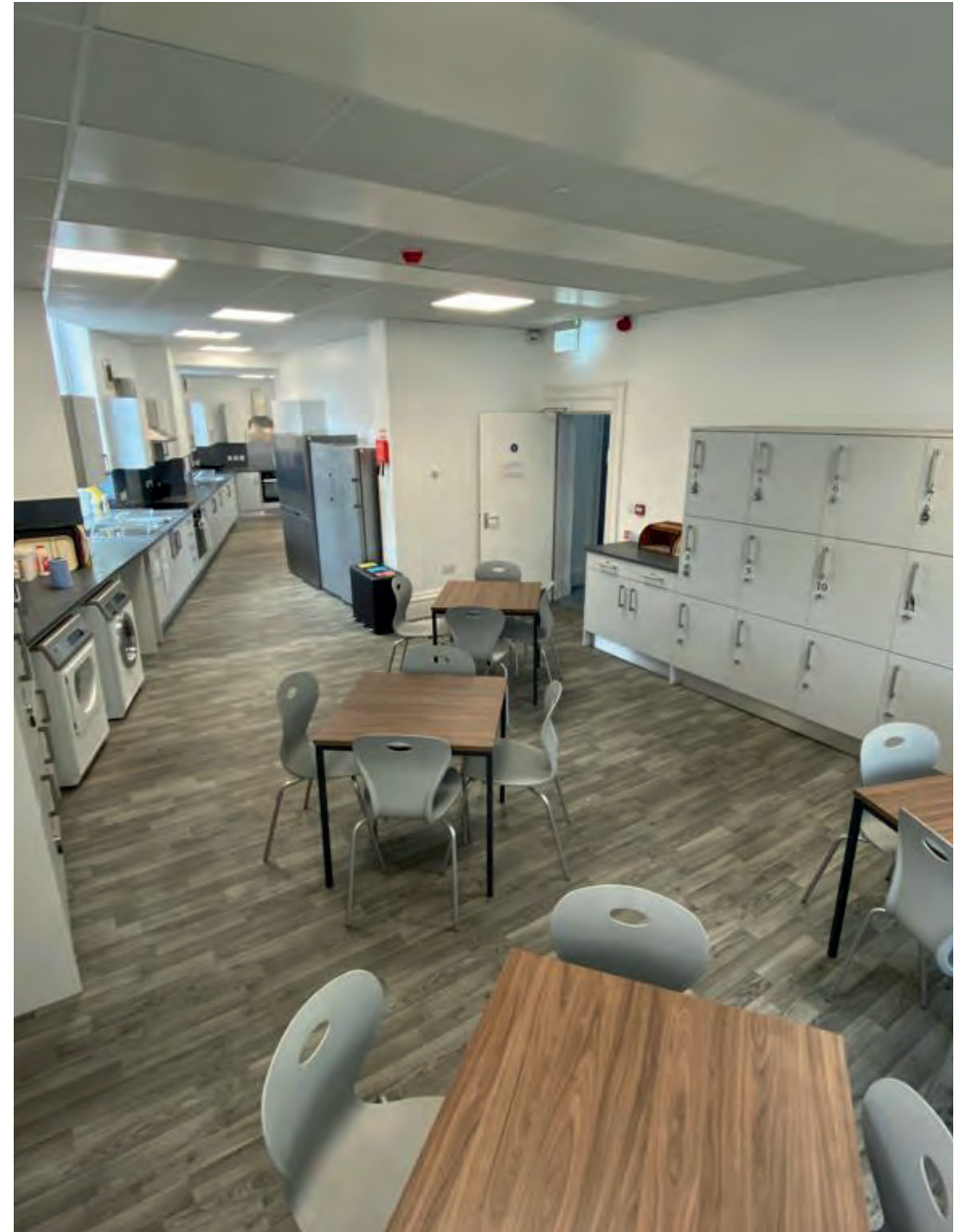
	2023
	£
Support costs	
Salary costs	460,263
Training and recruitment	13,417
Travelling expenses	5,069
Repairs and maintenance	59,663
Office service charge	2,120
Insurance	17,253
Telephone	10,702
Household expenses	6,097
Printing, postage and stationery	6,816
IT support	50,281
Professional fees	32,404
Bank charges and interest	2,422
Books and subscriptions	12,217
Depreciation	432
Miscellaneous costs	35,787
Rental Expense	<u>96,000</u>
	<u>810,943</u>
Governance costs	
Wages and salaries	22,722
Professional Fees	18,542
	<u>852,207</u>



During the year the charity made grants totalling £36,466 (2022: £27,353) to individuals.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

7. RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Activities		Total
	undertaken directly	Support costs	
Group and Charity	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£
Charitable activities			
Social work	847,307	316,735	1,164,042
Community Services	1,254,825	469,072	1,723,897
	2,102,132	785,807	2,887,939



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	2022
	£
Support costs	
Salary costs	479,808
Training and recruitment	3,705
Travelling expenses	5,513
Repairs and maintenance	15,105
Office service charge	39,047
Insurance	15,365
Telephone	9,623
Household expenses	11,313
Printing, postage and stationery	5,524
IT support	12,783
Professional fees	52,377
Bank charges and interest	2,400
Books and subscriptions	16,954
Depreciation	63,414
Miscellaneous costs	<u>9,079</u>
	742,010
Governance costs	
Wages and salaries	60,162
Professional fees	<u>18,624</u>
	<u>820,796</u>



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

8. EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

Group	Direct fundraising	Support	Total
	costs	costs	Funds
	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£
Appeals and collections			
Trading activities - charity shops	19,353	-	19,353
Fundraising and communications	67,034	20,520	87,554
Expenditure on rental properties	<u>125,601</u>	<u>38,448</u>	<u>164,049</u>
	<u>211,988</u>	<u>58,968</u>	<u>270,956</u>

Charity	Direct fundraising	Support	Total
	costs	costs	Funds
	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£
Appeals and collections			
Fundraising and communications	67,034	20,520	87,554
Expenditure on rental properties	<u>125,601</u>	<u>38,448</u>	<u>164,049</u>
	<u>192,635</u>	<u>58,968</u>	<u>251,603</u>



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Group	Direct fundraising	Support	Total
	costs	costs	Funds
	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£
Appeals and collections			
Trading activities - charity shops	15,350	-	15,350
Fundraising and communications	80,885	30,236	111,121
Expenditure on rental properties	<u>12,715</u>	<u>4,533</u>	<u>17,468</u>

Charity	Direct fundraising	Support	Total
	costs	costs	Funds
	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£
Appeals and collections			
Fundraising and communications	80,885	30,236	111,121
Expenditure on rental properties	<u>12,715</u>	<u>4,753</u>	<u>17,468</u>
	<u>93,600</u>	<u>34,989</u>	<u>128,589</u>



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

9. NET INCOME

This is stated after charging:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:		
- owned by the charity	74,796	80,291
Auditors' remuneration - audit fees	15,500	15,600
Auditors' remuneration - non-audit fees	3,042	3,024
Staff pension contributions	67,208	62,257

During the year, no Members of the Council received any remuneration, benefits or reimbursement of expenses. (2022 - £Nil).

10. STAFF COSTS, STAFF NUMBERS AND THE COST OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

	2023	2022
	£	£
Staff costs were as follows:		
Wages and salaries	2,117,963	1,800,271
Social security costs	187,480	143,129
Other pension costs	67,208	62,257
	<u>2,372,651</u>	<u>2,005,657</u>

The number of employees whose emoluments amounted to more than £60,000 during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
	No	No
£70,001 - £80,000	1	1

There were no Directors to whom retirement benefits are accruing under money purchase schemes in respect of qualifying services.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the senior management team and are listed in the legal and administration information on page 84. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £315,478 (2022: £266,323). There were settlement payments in the year of £21,193 (2022: £22,361).

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Administrative staff	14	11
Management staff	21	17
Home and care workers	<u>61</u>	<u>47</u>
	<u>96</u>	<u>75</u>



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold land and buildings	Equipment and tenants' improvements	Motor Vehicles	Total
Group	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 April 2022	3,030,698	81,542	-	3,112,240
Additions	102,115	-	16,014	118,129
Disposals	-	(22,590)	-	(22,590)
At 31 March 2023	3,132,813	58,952	16,014	3,207,779
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2022	462,485	43,192	-	505,677
Charge for the year	60,614	14,182	-	74,796
Disposals	-	(22,590)	-	(22,590)
At 31 March 2023	523,099	34,784	-	557,883
Net book value				
At 31 March 2023	2,609,714	24,168	16,014	2,649,896
At 31 March 2022	2,568,213	38,350	-	2,606,563



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold land and buildings	Equipment and tenants' improvements	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Charity				
Cost				
At 1 April 2022	3,030,698	74,633	-	3,105,331
Additions	102,115	-	16,014	118,129
Disposals	-	(15,681)	-	(15,681)
At 31 March 2023	3,132,813	58,952	16,014	3,207,779
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2022	462,485	36,283	-	498,768
Charge for the year	60,614	14,182	-	74,796
Disposals	-	(15,681)	-	(15,681)
At 31 March 2023	523,099	34,784	-	557,883
Net book value				
At 31 March 2023	2,609,714	24,168	16,014	2,649,896
At 31 March 2022	2,568,213	38,350	-	2,606,563



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

Group	Investment Property	Unlisted securities	Total
	£	£	£
Market value			
At 1 April 2022	3,650,000	2,425,651	6,075,651
Additions	-	1,523,000	1,523,000
Disposals	(410,000)	(1,523,000)	(1,933,000)
Revaluations	20,000	(101,473)	(81,473)
At 31 March 2023	3,260,000	2,324,178	5,584,178



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Investment Property	Unlisted securities	Investment in Subsidiary	Total
	£	£	£	£
Charity				
Market value				
At 1 April 2022	3,650,000	2,425,651	1	6,075,652
Additions	-	1,523,000	-	1,523,000
Disposals	(410,000)	(1,523,000)	-	(1,933,000)
Revaluations	20,000	(101,473)	-	(81,473)
At 31 March 2023	3,260,000	2,324,178	1	5,584,179

Investments at market value comprise:

	Charity 2023	Group 2023	Charity 2022	Group 2022
	£	£	£	£
Investment property	3,260,000	3,260,000	3,650,000	3,650,000
Unlisted investments	2,324,179	2,324,178	2,425,652	2,425,651
Total market value	5,584,179	5,584,178	6,075,652	6,075,651

Investment properties were valued by Sanderson Weatherall, Chartered Valuation Surveyors at fair value on 22 June 2018. The carrying value of investment properties was updated to current market value as at 3 April 2023 as assessed by local independent estate agents.

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK.

Unlisted investments are made up of £1,324,178 in the Catholic Investment Fund and £1,000,000 in the COIF deposit fund.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (continued)

INVESTMENT IN SUBSIDIARY UNDERTAKING

Caritas Diocese of Salford Trading Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Caritas Diocese of Salford with registered number 08717793. The results of Caritas Diocese of Salford Trading Limited are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
i) Profit and loss account for year to 31 March 2023		
Turnover	26,375	24,222
Cost of sales	<u>(1,357)</u>	<u>(788)</u>
Gross Profit	25,018	23,434
Administration expenses	<u>(17,996)</u>	<u>(14,562)</u>
Profit for the year	<u>7,022</u>	<u>8,872</u>
Gift Aid Distribution	<u>(7,716)</u>	<u>(9,876)</u>
ii) Balance sheet as at 31 March 2023		
	2023	2022
	£	£
Debtors	15,351	14,791
Cash in hand	3,071	3,071
Creditors falling due within one year	<u>(2,945)</u>	<u>(1,691)</u>
Net Assets	<u>15,477</u>	<u>16,171</u>
Share capital	1	1
Profit and loss account	<u>15,476</u>	<u>16,170</u>
Shareholders surplus	<u>15,477</u>	<u>16,171</u>



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

13. DEBTORS

	2023	2022
Group	£	£
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	260,940	60,373
Prepayments and accrued income	175,933	266,194
Other Debtors	99,444	-
	<u>536,317</u>	<u>326,567</u>
	2023	2022
	£	£
Charity		
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	260,940	60,373
Prepayments and accrued income	174,500	266,451
Other Debtors	99,444	-
	<u>534,884</u>	<u>326,824</u>



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

14. CREDITORS:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Group		
Due within one year		
Trade creditors	32,069	171,525
Other creditors	14,219	16,773
Accruals and deferred income	103,339	62,499
	<u>149,627</u>	<u>250,797</u>
	2023	2022
	£	£
Charity		
Due within one year		
Trade creditors	30,745	171,525
Other creditors	14,219	15,082
Accruals and deferred income	101,718	62,499
Amounts due to subsidiary undertakings	13,920	13,976
	<u>160,602</u>	<u>263,082</u>
Deferred income	2023	2022
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 April 2022	12,096	80,818
Resources deferred in year	75,294	12,096
Amounts released from previous years	(12,096)	(80,818)
Deferred income at 31 March 2023	<u>75,294</u>	<u>12,096</u>

As at 31 March 2023 the charity was holding funds received in advance for work that will be undertaken in 2023/24.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

15. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

Charity	Brought Forward 2023	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Gains/ (Losses)	Transfers	Carried Forward 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
DESIGNATED FUNDS						
Fixed assets fund (including revaluations)	2,606,568	-	-	-	43,333	2,649,901
Long term investments	5,075,652	-	-	-	(491,474)	4,584,178
Reserve fund	419,480	-	-	-	55,620	475,100
Pension reserve	(879,000)	879,000	-	-	-	-
	7,222,700	879,000	-	-	(392,521)	7,709,179
GENERAL FUNDS						
General Funds	1,154,935	3,063,330	(3,020,909)	(81,474)	334,499	1,450,381
Total unrestricted funds	8,377,635	3,942,330	(3,020,909)	(81,474)	(58,022)	9,159,560

Charity	Brought Forward 2022	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Gains/ (Losses)	Transfers	Carried Forward 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
DESIGNATED FUNDS						
Fixed assets fund (including revaluations)	2,728,653	-	-	-	(122,085)	2,606,568
Long term investments	4,541,382	160,000	-	374,270	-	5,075,652
Reserve fund	424,741	-	-	-	(5,261)	419,480
Pension reserve	(1,535,000)	-	(38,000)	694,000	-	(879,000)
	6,159,776	160,000	(38,000)	1,068,270	(127,346)	7,222,700
GENERAL FUNDS						
General Funds	1,119,317	1,577,692	(1,366,125)	-	(175,949)	1,154,935
Total unrestricted funds	7,279,093	1,737,692	(1,404,125)	1,068,270	(303,295)	8,377,635



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

15. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

	Brought Forward 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Transfers £	Carried Forward 2023 £
RESTRICTED FUNDS						
Ukraine Crisis Service	-	40,288	-	-	-	40,288
St Joseph's Mission to Deaf People	109,918	28,206	(79,547)	-	-	58,577
Post Adoption	5,000	1,440	(64,462)	-	58,022	-
Morning Star Hostel	-	98,672	-	-	-	98,672
Lalley Centre and Community Allotment	68,319	60,701	(108,738)	-	-	20,282
Refugee Response	149,578	72,336	(78,449)	-	-	143,465
Catholic Family Care	6,218	959	(4,436)	-	-	2,741
St Joseph Welfare	2,110	86,863	(82,418)	-	-	6,555
Bury Red Door	40,512	153,322	(152,357)	-	-	41,477
Caritas Bishop's Fund	27,112	98,585	(44,878)	-	-	80,819
Subtotal	408,767	641,372	(615,285)	-	58,022	492,876
Total of Funds	8,786,402	4,583,702	(3,636,194)	(81,474)	-	9,652,436



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

15. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

	Brought Forward 2022 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Transfers £	Carried Forward 2022 £
RESTRICTED FUNDS						
Blackburn with Darwen Maryvale	-	113,700	(167,195)	-	53,495	-
St Joseph's Welfare	16,848	108,006	(134,416)	-	11,672	2,110
Post Adoption	5,000	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	5,000
Cornerstone Drop In Centre	75,103	411,273	(491,117)	-	4,741	-
St Joseph's Mission for the Deaf	149,107	2,652	(41,841)	-	-	109,918
Catholic Family Care	6,916	845	(1,543)	-	-	6,218
The Lalley	129,469	30,790	(91,940)	-	-	68,319
Red Door	13,145	73,667	(46,300)	-	-	40,512
Sr Joan's Service	-	-	(15,245)	-	15,245	-
Night Provision	4,350	85,342	(302,461)	-	212,769	-
Refugee Response	75,622	239,274	(165,318)	-	-	149,578
Education	6,850	114,917	(127,140)	-	5,373	-
Caritas Bishop's Fund	30,000	20,000	(22,888)	-	-	27,112
Subtotal	512,410	1,205,465	(1,612,403)	-	303,295	408,767
Total of Funds	7,791,503	2,943,154	(3,016,528)	1,068,270	-	8,786,399



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Transfers are made to restricted funds from general funds where expenditure exceeds restricted income.

Group	Brought Forward 2022 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Transfers £	Carried Forward 2022 £
DESIGNATED FUNDS						
Fixed assets fund (including revaluations)	2,728,65	-	-	-	(122,085)	2,606,568
Long term investments	4,541,382	160,000	-	374,270	-	5,075,652
Reserve Fund	424,741	-	-	-	(5,261)	419,480
Pension reserve	(1,535,000)	-	(38,000)	694,000	-	(879,000)
	<u>6,159,776</u>	<u>160,000</u>	<u>(38,000)</u>	<u>1,068,270</u>	<u>(127,346)</u>	<u>7,222,700</u>
GENERAL FUNDS						
General Funds	1,136,492	1,592,038	(1,381,475)	-	(175,949)	1,171,106
Total unrestricted funds	<u>7,286,268</u>	<u>1,752,035</u>	<u>(1,419,475)</u>	<u>1,068,270</u>	<u>(303,295)</u>	<u>8,393,806</u>



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

15. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

Group	Brought Forward 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Transfers £	Carried Forward 2023 £
DESIGNATED FUNDS						
Fixed assets fund (including revaluations)	2,606,568	-	-	-	43,333	2,649,901
Long term investments	5,075,652	-	-	-	(491,474)	4,584,178
Reserve Fund	419,480	-	-	-	55,620	475,100
Pension reserve	(879,000)	879,000	-	-	-	-
	7,222,700	879,000	-	-	(392,521)	7,709,179
GENERAL FUNDS						
General Funds	1,171,106	3,081,989	(3,040,262)	(81,474)	334,499	1,465,858
Total unrestricted funds	8,393,806	3,960,989	(3,040,262)	(81,474)	(58,022)	9,175,037

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

15. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

SUMMARY OF FUNDS						
	Brought Forward 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Transfers £	Carried Forward 2023 £
Designated Funds	7,222,700	879,000	-	-	(392,521)	7,709,179
General Funds	1,171,106	3,081,989	(3,040,262)	(81,474)	334,499	1,465,858
Subtotal	8,393,806	3,960,989	(3,040,262)	(81,474)	(58,022)	9,175,037
Restricted Funds	408,767	641,372	(615,285)	-	58,022	492,876
Total of Funds	8,802,573	4,602,361	(3,655,547)	(81,474)	-	9,667,913

Transfers are made to restricted funds from general funds where expenditure exceeds restricted income.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Details of funds

DESIGNATED FUNDS:

Fixed assets reserve

The fixed assets fund has been set up to assist in identifying those funds that are not free funds and it represents the net book value of tangible assets.

Reserve Fund

This fund has been set up to reflect the anticipated costs of redundancy if the Charity were to discontinue its charitable activities.

Investment reserve

The investments fund has been set up to assist in identifying those funds that are not free funds and it represents the net book value of investments excluding short term investments to generate revenue.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

RESTRICTED FUNDS:

St. Joseph's Mission to Deaf People

The St Joseph's Mission for Deaf People Fund is used to support the deaf and hard of hearing communities in the Diocese of Salford.

Post Adoption

The restricted fund relates to income received from a family trust to specifically fund therapeutic work within the Adoption Support Service.

Morning Star Hostel

Funds restricted to providing The Safe Haven night shelter.

Lalley Centre and Community Allotment

The Lalley Fund is a community centre responding to local deprivation and poverty.

Refugee Response

This restricted fund is being used to coordinate the support of refugees in the Diocese of Salford following the global appeal by Pope Francis.

Catholic Family Care

The Catholic Family Care fund is established to provide clothing and footwear to families in need. Funds have arisen through the annual subscriptions received from members, net of any expenditure in respect of its charitable objectives.

Connecting Older People

The Community Development Fund represents income received to fund support work with elderly people in the North Manchester communities delivered by the Connecting Older People Service.

Bury Red Door

The Red Door Fund in Bury is a drop-in support service for homeless people.

Caritas Bishop's Fund

The purpose of this fund is to provide immediate support to families or individuals facing a crisis.

Ukraine Crisis Service

The Ukraine Crisis Service responds in practical ways to the refugees and asylum seekers from Ukraine.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Blackburn with Darwen Maryvale

Blackburn with Darwen Maryvale Fund relates to contract income and services provision costs for supported accommodation units in Blackburn.

Cornerstone Day Centre

Cornerstone operates as a drop-in day centre for homeless women and men and other adults marginalised because of poor mental health, learning disability or other disabling conditions. The help offered includes hot and cold beverages, snacks, cooked lunches, a good as new clothing service, laundry and shower facilities and, on occasion, haircuts. Centre workers assist people in their claims for benefit and applications for housing. The service is funded by voluntary donations and donations received specifically for the service are designated against it.

Sr Joan's Service

The Sr Joan's Service responds to the needs of the local community particularly the elderly and carers in Bury.

Aspire Education

The Aspire Education Fund is used to provide an English language provision in Manchester mainly, but not exclusively for refugees and asylum seekers.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Group	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	2,649,893	2,649,893
Fixed asset investments	-	5,584,177	5,584,177
Current assets	500,550	1,082,921	1,583,471
Creditors due within one year	(7,674)	(141,953)	(149,627)
Pension scheme liability	-	-	-
	492,876	9,175,038	9,667,914

Group	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	2,606,563	2,606,563
Fixed asset investments	-	6,075,651	6,075,651
Current assets	408,767	841,383	1,250,150
Creditors due within one year	-	(250,797)	(250,797)
Pension scheme liability	-	(879,000)	(879,000)
	408,767	8,393,804	8,802,571



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

16. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 March 2023 the group had future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	Land and buildings		Other	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Within 1 year	1,000	-	1,819	2,319
Between 2 and 5 years	-	-	<u>3,184</u>	<u>3,183</u>
	<u>1,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,003</u>	<u>5,502</u>

17. COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

The Council of the Charity guarantees to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up.

18. PENSION

The charity formally provided pension arrangements to some of its employees through the Greater Manchester Pension Fund administered by Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council. This was a multi-employer defined benefit scheme. Following negotiations with both the scheme and guarantor, Caritas Diocese of Salford left the scheme on the 30 September 2022. On cessation, all of the assets and liabilities associated with the deferred and pensioner member transferred to the Guarantor and, as previously agreed, no cessation payment was required hence the liability associated with the pension scheme has been derecognised following the transfer.

The charity also provides pension arrangements through a money purchase scheme administered by Friends Provident.

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet are as follows

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fair value of employer assets	-	5,314,000
Present value of funded obligations	-	<u>(6,193,000)</u>
Net pension liability	-	<u>879,000</u>

Fair value of employer assets has been limited to the present value of funded obligations from its fair value as there is no future economic benefits expected to return to the charity.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

18. PENSION (CONTINUED)

Amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Service cost	-	(17,000)
Interest on Employer Assets	-	96,000
Interest on Pension Scheme Liabilities	-	<u>(126,000)</u>
Total net interest	=	<u>(47,000)</u>

Amounts recognised in other recognised gains / (losses)

	2023	2022
	£	£
Actual return less expected return on pension scheme assets	-	454,000
Changes in financial assumptions underlying the present value of the scheme liabilities	-	<u>240,000</u>
Total recognised gain/(loss) in OCI	=	<u>694,000</u>

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Defined benefit obligation recognized at 1 April 2022	-	6,587,000
Service cost	-	17,000
Interest cost	-	126,000
Contribution by members	-	3,000
Remeasurement	-	(240,000)
Estimated benefits paid	-	<u>(300,000)</u>
Closing defined benefit obligation	=	<u>6,193,000</u>



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

18. PENSION (CONTINUED)

Changes in the fair value of the charities share of scheme assets are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fair value of employer assets at 1 April 2022	-	5,052,000
Contributions by members	-	3,000
Contributions by the employer	-	9,000
Return on assets (excluding interest)	-	454,000
Benefits paid	-	(300,000)
Interest income	-	<u>96,000</u>
Closing fair value of employer assets	=	<u>5,314,000</u>

The major categories of fund assets as follows:

	Assets at 31 March 2023	Assets at 31 March 2022
	£	£
Equities	-	3,560,380
Bonds	-	797,100
Property	-	425,120
Cash	-	<u>531,400</u>
	=	<u>5,314,000</u>

The principal assumptions at the balance sheet date:

	2023	2022
	% per annum	% per annum
Inflation rate (CPI)	-	3.30
Future salary increase rate	-	4.05
Future pension increase rate	-	3.30
Discount rate	-	2.70



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

18. PENSION (CONTINUED)

The sensitivities regarding the principal assumptions used to measure the scheme liabilities as at 31 March 2023 are:

	Approximate % increase to employer liability	Approximate monetary amount £'000
0.5% decrease in real discount rate	-	-
0.5% increase in the salary increase rate	-	-
0.5% increase in the pension increase rate	-	-

The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:

	At 31 March 2023	At 31 March 2022
Retiring today	-	-
Males	-	20.3
Females	-	23.2
Retiring in 20 years	-	-
Males	-	21.6
Females	-	25.1

19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Caritas Diocese of Salford, over several years, has been working closely with the Diocese of Salford to ensure that the charitable purposes of both charities complement their shared mission. To effect this a convergence of governance and a planned transition of Trusteeship occurred so that the trustees of Caritas Diocese of Salford are now the same as those of the Diocese of Salford.

The charity has benefited from the rent free provision of premises from the Diocese of Salford. The value of market rent was estimated at £96,000 which has been recognised in rental expenditure. A corresponding amount of £96,000 has been recognised in income, representing the donated services received from the Diocese of Salford.

The charity has also had transactions with its wholly owned trading subsidiary, Caritas Diocese of Salford Trading Limited. As at 31 March 2023 Caritas Diocese of Salford owed Caritas Diocese of Salford Trading Limited £13,920 (2022: £1,148). During the year £7,716 (2022: £9,876) was paid to Caritas Diocese of Salford from Caritas Diocese of Salford Trading Limited in respect of gift aid.

There were no other related party transactions that need to be disclosed.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

20. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Group	2023	2022
	£	£
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	<u>1,309,525</u>	<u>982,884</u>
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	<u>74,333</u>	<u>237,010</u>

Financial assets consist of cash, trade debtors and other debtors

Financial liabilities consist of trade creditors, other creditors and accruals

21. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENT

There have been no significant events affecting the Company since the year end.



Legal and administrative information

For the year ended: 31 March 2023

Charity name: Caritas Diocese of Salford

Governing documents: Memorandum and articles of association

The trustees:

Chair of trustees:

Right Reverend John Arnold - Bishop of Salford

Trustees:

Rev Canon Michael Cooke

Rev Christopher Dawson

Michael Devlin (resigned 20 July 2023)

Sir Peter Fahy

Rev Peter Hopkinson

Mrs Mary Hunter

Rev Canon Michael Jones

Mrs Elizabeth Lilley

Mr Brendan McCafferty

Mr Edward Nally

Dr Eamonn O'Neal

Senior management team:

Director:

Patrick O'Dowd

Head of resources and support services:

Angela McCornack

Schools services manager:

Georgina Jones (until February 2023)

Head of children and families:

Rebecca Underdown (from April 2023)

Head of social action:

Craig Savage

Head of homelessness:

Amanda Croome

Company registered number: 6594417

Charity registered number: 1125808

Principal and registered office:

Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford M3 6DP

Secretary:

Mr Edward Nally LLB

Auditors:

Crowe U.K. LLP, The Lexicon, Mount Street, Manchester, M2 5NT

Bankers:

The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc, P0 Box 320, St. Ann's Street, Manchester M60 2SS

Handelsbanken, 4th Floor, Kabel House, 15 Quay St, Manchester M3 3HN



*“ We saw it as an end to suffering and poverty
by coming to a country that was safe.
When I go to bed at night, I know that my
children are safe - and that
was our purpose.”*

Mother, resettled

Thank you!

Huge thanks to everyone who has supported Caritas Salford and been part of our charity's community over the last twelve months. Whether that's the amazing individuals and organisations that donate so we can continue our work; the staff and volunteers who have worked hard to improve the lives of people in our local communities; the professionals we've collaborated with across the region and nationally; or, most importantly, the people who access our services and work alongside us as we develop them further - thank you all.

We simply couldn't carry on our work to reduce the impact of poverty, disadvantage and isolation without everyone who makes up that wider community, and we're extremely grateful for your ongoing support.



#Loved

Caritas
Diocese of Salford



CARITAS DIOCESE OF SALFORD

☎ 0161-817 2250

✉ info@caritassalford.org.uk