Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended

31 March 2024

Scottish Charity Number: SC029486

Report and Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Contents	Pages
Reference and Administrative information	2
Report of the Trustees	3 – 6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9
Accounting Policies	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 – 14

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity registration number: SC029486

(Scottish Charity)

Principal office address:



Board of Trustees



Trustees Annual Report For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The members of the Board of Trustees are pleased to present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Structure, Governance and Management

Interfaith Scotland is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) and is governed by its constitution.

The organisation acts as an umbrella organisation for groups within the major world faiths and diverse religious traditions, twenty-one local interfaith groups and two educational bodies concerned with religious and moral education in a multi-faith context. It operates across Scotland and provides opportunities for dialogue, networking, and multi-faith action.

Up to eleven members of the Board of Trustees are appointed at the AGM and up to four further members can be co-opted by the board. The Board of Trustees are sought from the membership categories of Interfaith Scotland (up to 11) with a further four co-optees appointed for their particular skill set.

The trustees create a strategic and policy framework for the organisation, focusing on strategic direction and vision and are ultimately responsible for ensuring that it fulfils its statutory requirements. The Board met regularly over the past financial year and were successful in achieving funding for the year 2023-2024 based on a detailed work plan with clear outcomes and budget.

Objectives and Review of Activities

Interfaith Scotland is established to provide a forum for representatives from the major world religions and other individuals and groups to dialogue with one another on matters of religious, national and civic importance, to promote educational activities in connection with interfaith relations, to encourage civic engagement by religious communities and support religious equality.

Interfaith engagement events during the year (in person and online)

Faces of Faith Exhibition:

To celebrate religious diversity in Scotland in person interfaith dialogue events were held, featuring the Faces of Faith exhibition, in Dundee (April 2023); Morayshire (August 2023); The Granary in Ayr (September 2023); Napier University Chaplaincy (October 2023), Aberdeen University (November 2023); and Edinburgh University Chaplaincy (February 2024). Many of these events featured whole school attendance, university engagement, public library events and public dialogues.

In person events:

Creating an Interfaith Vision Together (an in-person members' dialogue event was held at the Interfaith Scotland Dialogue Centre, Glasgow (May 2023).

Holding Hope in the face of Hate: Interfaith Dialogue event held with refugees and asylum seekers and diverse faith communities for Scottish Refugee Week 2023 in Glasgow, (June 23).

Berlin Senate Interfaith learning exchange: in-person engagement over three days involving faith communities from Scotland and Berlin held in venues in Glasgow and Edinburgh (July 2023).

Holy Isle Intergenerational Interfaith Retreat: an interfaith intergenerational retreat was held on Holy Isle off the coast of Arran. A BBC Alba documentary featured the retreat. (August 2023).

Leadership for Peaceful Co-existence, Annual Interfaith Lecture: The Annual Interfaith Lecture was delivered in Glasgow by the Muslim Council of Britain and can be found online via You Tube (October 2023).

Trustees Annual Report (continued)

Objectives and Review of Activities (continued)

Scottish Religious Leaders Forum meeting: at home of Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Edinburgh (October 2023).

Scottish Interfaith Week 2023: The theme for SIFW was Community and the week was held in November 2023 (see below for further information).

Holocaust Memorial Day 2024: Interfaith Scotland supported Holocaust Memorial Day by hosting events and funding local communities to also hold events (see report below) (January 2024).

Courageous Conversations: a series of 5 in-person dialogues were held with members of the Muslim, Jewish and Christian Faiths focusing on how to keep communities connected and safe in Scotland in light of the conflict in Israel/Gaza (ongoing in partnership with Interfaith Glasgow).

Celebrating Chinese Spirituality & Culture: a colourful and well attended event was held in partnership with the Confucian Centre of Glasgow University (March 24).

Dialogue events held online:

Interfaith Interactions: a series of 5 dialogue events entitled 'Interfaith Interactions' were held online on themes identified by faith communities as of interest to them (each Interaction featured speakers from three faith traditions).

Supporting local interfaith groups

Interfaith Scotland has continued to support local interfaith groups across Scotland through visits, enewsletters, articles in the bi-annual magazine, small-grant funding for Scottish Interfaith Week and Holocaust Memorial Day and hosting networking events.

Interfaith youth advisory board report

The Interfaith Youth Advisory Board has continued to meet regularly and have supported events and attended relevant consultations. They were shortlisted for a YouthLink Community Youth Award.

Interfaith climate action

As part of our on-going climate awareness work Interfaith Scotland chairs the Interfaith Climate Justice Network (Scotland) and sits as a member of the Interfaith Liaison Committee to the UNFCCC. We held six dialogue events with an environmental and climate crisis focus to continue to keep faith communities informed.

Interfaith Scotland has also worked in partnership with the Scottish Religious Leaders Forum to continue to highlight the crisis through letters to Government and joint statements of concern.

Refugee support and engagement

Interfaith Scotland continues to be a member of the Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees and meetings of the group are regularly held in the Dialogue Centre. In addition, we have hosted two events for Scottish Refugee Week (as above) and supported five events hosted by local interfaith groups in support of refugees and asylum seekers. We were active members of the Bus Pass Campaign to give free bus passes to asylum seekers.

Scottish interfaith week 2023 (theme: Community)

Scottish Interfaith Week 2023 was a great success. We developed an exciting programme of events, over 75 in total, and hosted an inspiring launch event in partnership with Aberdeen Interfaith Group

Trustees Annual Report (continued)

Objectives and Review of Activities (continued)

and Aberdeen City Council. 2023 saw a variety of organisations, politicians, schools, interfaith groups, and chaplaincies engage with Scottish Interfaith Week. We worked particularly hard to engage local councils and libraries in the festival in 2023 and enjoyed wider engagement.

Our engagement and audiences across all social media platforms, and for our newsletter, remained comparatively consistent. Faith communities, politicians, local interfaith groups, organisations, schools, and chaplaincies notably engaged with this year's Scottish Interfaith Week, and these foundational relationships provide us with excellent next steps for building our engagement in the future. For our Scottish Interfaith Week accounts, we increased our audience across all platforms (Twitter, Facebook and Instagram) and developed new ways to engage with our audience online.

This engagement with our Interfaith Scotland accounts (Twitter, Facebook and website) also vastly increased in the lead up to and throughout the festival, and it is clear the festival increases our profile as a national interfaith organisation. In November 2023 (the month of the festival) our account earned over 14,000 impressions. Our Interfaith Scotland Facebook currently has 2,321 followers, our Interfaith Scotland Twitter has 1,925 followers, and our website received over 1,500 unique views during Scottish Interfaith Week.

First Minister Humza Yousaf promoted Scottish Interfaith Week in a moving message (https://tinyurl.com/ycyrxtm2) in which he praised Interfaith Scotland for running the festival and celebrated the work of local faith communities and interfaith groups.

Holocaust Memorial Day 2024

Interfaith Scotland, Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and Glasgow City Council: Annual Holocaust Memorial Day Concert

A fully booked concert to remember the Holocaust and subsequent genocides took place in partnership with the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. The concert included music by incredible young musicians from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Turin Conservatory and Douglas Academy RCS. World famous journalist and broadcaster, Allan Little, also shared a personal reflection, 'One Morning in Bosnia'.

Eight additional Holocaust Memorial Day events were supported by Interfaith Scotland in Edinburgh (2), East Renfrewshire, Moray, Aberdeen, Shetland and Central Scotland. Interfaith Scotland cohosted a regional HMD event in Morayshire which included engagement with a local school.

Civic engagement and partnership working

Interfaith Scotland continues to be part of the Scottish Government's Religion and Belief Engagement Group and the Scottish Government's Hate Crime Strategic Partnership group, and we contribute regularly to both groups. We also sit on the Police Scotland Strategic engagement group. Much of this work is related to tackling hatred and hate crime in Scotland along with building community cohesion.

In addition, we regularly work in partnership with organisations to build collaborative understanding or to co-host events together. Partnership engagement has included Police Scotland. BBC Scotland, Faith in Older People, Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees, Scottish Refugee Council, The Bridges Programme, The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, the Climate Justice Network (Scotland), local interfaith groups, JustRight Scotland, and faith community partnership working.

Trustees Annual Report (continued)

Objectives and Review of Activities (continued)

Tackling hate through remembrance, dialogue, training, freedom of religion or belief and refugee support

Through our work on the Hate Crime Strategic Partnership Group, our educational schools work and training programs, our Holocaust memorial work (and genocide awareness) work, our Secretariat support for the Cross Party Group on Freedom of Religion or Belief, and our work to support refugees and asylum seekers we continue to be actively involved in tackling hatred throughout Scotland.

Interfaith Scotland national dialogue centre

Our Interfaith Dialogue Centre has been used for 63 events in the time frame of this report.

Volunteers

Interfaith Scotland would like to warmly thank the many volunteers who have contributed so much to the organisation. Their support and help is greatly appreciated.

Financial review

Income and expenditure is detailed in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 10.

Total income for the year was £178,774 and expenditure £183,904, resulting in a deficit of £5,130.

Total funds at 31 March 2024 have therefore decreased from £76,661 to £71,531, representing the unrestricted funds at the end of the year.

The board acknowledge the deficit and are putting in measures to increase income by charging for the hire of the National Dialogue Centre and are considering raising membership fees.

The unrestricted fund, less the value of fixed assets, represents the free reserves of the charity and is called the General Fund in note 10. This is equivalent to around five months' annual unrestricted expenditure at current levels. Whilst this is considered to be adequate to provide for periods of unexpected expenditure or for shortfalls in funding, it is the Trustees' policy to strive to have a reserves level equivalent to one year's running costs.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 20th November 2024 and is signed on their behalf by:



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Interfaith Scotland

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Respective responsibilities of directors and examiner

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

The Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

- 1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have not been met, or
- 2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Date 27/11/2024

Interfaith Scotland
Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
Income from:		Funds	Funds	2024	2023
Denotions and loggeries:		£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies: Membership & donations		3,400		3,400	3,952
Grant income	1	145,250	- 14,500	159,750	168,250
Charitable activities:	•	143,230	14,500	139,730	100,230
Sale of goods and services		15,624	-	15,624	19,128
Total		164,274	14,500	178,774	191,330
Expenditure on:	2				
Fundraising costs		5,298	-	5,298	5,118
Charitable activities		163,787	14,819	178,606	191,951
Total		169,085	14,819	183,904	197,069
Net income / (expenditure) for year		(4,811)	(319)	(5,130)	(5,739)
Transfers					
Net movement in funds		(4,811)	(319)	(5,130)	(5,739)
Funds brought forward		76,342	319	76,661	82,400
Funds carried forward	10	71,531		71,531	76,661

The notes on pages 10 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024	2023
		£	£
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	5	572	911
Current Assets			
Debtors	6	14,931	6,790
Cash at bank and in hand		61,018	72,911
		75,949	79,701
Creditors:			
Amounts due within one year	7	4,990	3,951
Net Current Assets		70,959	75,750
Net Assets		71,531	76,661
Funds			
Restricted funds	9	-	319
Unrestricted funds	9	71,531	76,342
Total Funds	10	71,531	76,661

The notes on pages 10 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

The accounts on pages 8 to 14 were approved by the Trustees on 20 November 2024 and are signed on their behalf by:



Notes to the Accounts

Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' - (referred to as 'the Charities SORP'), the 'Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (FRS 102) and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has applied the alternative structure for smaller charities allowed by paragraph 4.22 of the Charities SORP and has not reported on an activity basis. Similarly, as a smaller charity, a cash flow statement has not been prepared.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The directors have assessed the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern and have reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing these financial statements.

Income

Grants and donations are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they are receivable, provided any conditions for use of the grant or donation have been fulfilled. Where a grant or donation is received for a specific purpose, it is included within restricted income and any unexpended portion carried forward as a restricted fund.

Accounting estimates

The directors do not consider there are any areas of the financial statements where significant judgements are being carried out.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is calculated by the straight line method to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives at the following rate:

Office equipment: 20% straight line basis

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised, at settlement amount, where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event, which is likely to result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due can be measured or estimated reliably.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds arise from donations without a specified purpose and other income generated and are available to be used for any of the objects of the charity at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor or funder. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the income and expenditure account as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Interfaith Scotland Notes to the Accounts (continued)

1.	Income	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	Donations and legacies	£	£	£	£
	Grants:				
	Core funding				
	- Scottish Government	145,250	-	145,250	145,000
	National Holocaust Memorial Day				
	- Scottish Government	-	5,000	5,000	5,000
	Glasgow Climate Action Hub				
	- Scottish Government	-	4,000	4,000	-
	Scottish Refugees				
	- Scottish Refugee Council	-	500	500	-
	National Interfaith Youth Advisory Board				
	- The Mulberry Trust	-	5,000	5,000	4,000
	- Youthlink	-	-	-	7,000
	Hate Crime Engagement				
	- Scottish Government				7,250
	Total	145,250	14,500	<u>159,750</u>	168,250
2.	Expenditure	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		Funds	Funds	2024	2023
	Fundraising	£	£	£	£
	Staff costs (note 3)	5,298	-	5,298	5,118
	Charitable activities				
	Staff costs (note 3)	109,894	-	109,894	118,679
	Conferences and events	6,198	11,014	17,212	17,803
	Training & development	750	-	750	191
	Travel	3,389	116	3,505	6,454
	Printing, publicity & website	2,420	300	2,720	2,958
	Rent and premises	19,793	-	19,793	18,961
	Insurance	725	-	725	696
	Office expenses & postage	7,272	16	7,288	6,829
	Payroll and admin support	1,230	-	1,230	1,060
	Consultancy	10,300	3,373	13,673	15,477
	Accountancy	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
	Donations and grants made	-	-	-	1,051
	Depreciation	339	-	339	200
	Other expenditure	277		277	392
	Total	169,085	14,819	183,904	197,069

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

3.	Staff costs	2024	2023
		£	£
	Wages & salaries	105,934	113,850
	Social security costs	4,309	4,808
	Pensions	4,949	5,139
	Total staff costs	115,192	123,797

The average number of employees in the year was 5 (2023 - 5).

There were no employees with emoluments above £60,000.

The total amount of employee benefits paid to key management personnel was £46,723 (2023: £48,903) Volunteers assisted staff with planning and organising events, and resource development.

4.	Independent Examiner	2024	2023
		£	£
	Remuneration of independent examiner	400	300
	Accountancy and other services	1,200	1,200

5.	Tangible Fixed Assets Cost: At 1 April 2023 Additions Disposals	Office equipment £ 17,650 -	
	At 31 March 2024	17,650	
	Depreciation: At 1 April 2023 Charge for year On disposals At 31 March 2024	16,739 339 17,078	
		,	
	Net Book Value:		
	At 31 March 2024	<u>572</u>	
	At 31 March 2023	911	
6.	Debtors	2024 £	2023 £
	Trade debtors	1,886	1,422
	Prepayments & accrued income	13,045	5,368
	ropaymonto a acordea moone	14,931	6,790

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

7.	Creditors Amounts falling due within one year: Trade creditors Accruals and deferred income	2024 £ 1,008 3,982 4,990	2023 £ 45 3,906 3,951
8.	Deferred income Movement in deferred income account: Balance at 1 April 2023 Added in current year Released to income from previous year Balance at 31 March 2024	2024 £ - 750 - 750	2023 £ - - -

Deferred income comprises funding received in advance for the following accounting year.

9. Trustee and connected party remuneration and expenses

No remuneration was paid to members of the Board of Trustees during either year. Travel expenses totalling £566 were paid to six trustees (2023: £249 - three trustees).

10. Movement on Funds

	Note	At 1/4/23	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31/3/24
Restricted funds:		£	£	£	£	£
Holocaust Memorial Day	(a)	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Glasgow Climate Action Hub	(b)		4,000	(4,000)	-	-
Refugees Festival	(c)		500	(500)	-	-
Youth Advisory Board	(d) _	319	5,000	(5,319)		
Total restricted funds	_	319	14,500	(14,819)	<u> </u>	
Unrestricted funds:						
General fund		75,431	164,274	(168,746)	-	70,959
Fixed asset fund	(e) _	911		(339)		572
Total unrestricted funds	_	76,342	164,274	(169,085)		71,531
Total funds	=	76,661	178,774	(183,904)		71,531

Notes on Funds

- (a) Scottish Government funding to support Holocaust Memorial Day events put on by local groups.
- (b) Scottish Government funds to support the climate awareness project.
- (c) Funds from the Scottish Refugee Council for a Refugees Festival.
- (d) Funds provided by The Mulberry Trust and Youthlink Scotland to develop a National Interfaith Youth Advisory Board.

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

Notes on Funds (continued)

(e) The fixed asset fund corresponds to the net book value of tangible fixed assets. Depreciation is charged to the fund and the cost of fixed assets purchased is transferred into the fund.

11. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	Funds	Fund	Funds
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	572	572
Current assets	905	75,044	75,949
Current liabilities	(905)	(4,085)	(4,990)
Net assets at 31 March 2024		71,531	71,531

12. Statement of Financial Activities - Comparative figures by class for the year ended 31 March 2023

Income from:	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Donations and legacies:			
Membership & donations	3,952	-	3,952
Grant income	145,000	23,250	168,250
Charitable activities:	40.400		40.400
Sale of goods and services	19,128	-	19,128
Total	168,080	23,250	191,330
Expenditure on:			
Fundraising costs	5,118	_	5,118
Charitable activities	168,144	23,807	191,951
Total	173,262	23,807	197,069
Net income / (expenditure) for year	(5,182)	(557)	(5,739)
Transfers	175_	(175)	
Net movement in funds	(5,007)	(732)	(5,739)
Funds brought forward	81,349	1,051_	82,400
Funds carried forward	76,342	319	76,661