

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016



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Report of the Trustees and Directors for the year ended 31 December 2016

Introduction

The Trustees, who are also directors of the Association for the purposes of company law, are pleased to submit the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the charitable company for the period 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016, which are prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting By Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102 – effective 1 January 2015).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Southern Counties Baptist Association (also known as SCBA) is a registered charity (number 1091066) was incorporated as a private limited company on 31 August 2001 and is governed by Articles and Memorandum of Association.

The Objects of this charitable company are 'the advancement of the Christian faith especially by means of and in accordance with the principles of the Baptist denomination, as set out for the time being, in the Declaration of Principle of the Baptist Union of Great Britain'.

The principle activities of the charitable company are the employment of Regional Ministers and administrative staff team and the involvement of a number of volunteers, working in groups or individually, to offer support and guidance, training and financial resources to advance the Christian religion in a way which benefits Baptist churches and the communities in which they serve.

The charitable company is part of the family of Baptist organisations serving the needs of many of the Baptist Churches in Great Britain, working particularly closely with the Baptist Union of Great Britain and BMS World Mission.

The charitable company aims to:

- Co-operate with churches directly and through working groups by passing appropriate resolutions to
 enable building development projects, including the provision of grants and loans, including Sustainable
 Energy Funding. Many of these projects are directly aimed at making church buildings more accessible
 and available to the local community.
- Assist churches and ministers that are seeking new ministries through the National Settlement process.
- Assist individuals in exploring a call to any Baptist ministry by signposting various routes to recognised Baptist ministry, interviewing candidates, supporting ministerial candidates and providing Baptist Union approved training for preachers and lay pastors.
- Make Safeguarding training available on a rolling programme, encouraging and enabling ministers and members of churches to receive training at a reduce cost or free.
- Encourage dialogue within churches or between churches and their local community.
- Encourage the SCBA Grants Committee as it continues to seek creative ways of supporting churches in their mission using Baptist Home Mission and Association funds.
- Ensure, through its Finance Task Group, responsible and effective stewardship of the resources of the charitable company.
- Encourage churches to support Baptist Home Mission and BMS World Mission through prayer, direct
 partnership with mission personnel and financial gifts, so that the Gospel of Jesus Christ can continue to
 be shared in the UK and abroad.
- Receive and consider reports from the Task Groups and the Regional Ministers, enabling the charitable company to maintain effective governance
- Support the staff employed by the charitable company through the provision of appropriate training and support, and provision of clear and effective staffing and other policies.
- Seek appropriate and timely legal advice on issues having a potentially wide-ranging effect with a view to mitigating risk.

Report of the Trustees and Directors for the year ended 31 December 2016

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The trustees, having regard to the Charity Commission's guidance document, 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)', continued to provide public benefit by seeking to advance the Christian religion and practice 'according to the principles of the Baptist denomination' and with the Objects of the charitable company.

The trustees sought to achieve this in a number of ways, primarily providing support to the churches and their ministers to enable them to advance the Christian religion by public worship and their objects but also including granting assistance to churches seeking to improve their premises, encouraging churches to adopt robust safeguarding policies and practice, acting to provide help and support to churches seeking to improve their own governance and holding the Regional Ministers accountable for their support for churches seeking to advance the Christian religion in their communities. A series of training seminars on the Role and responsibilities of Charity Trustees took place in the year.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of main achievements of the charity and any subsidiaries.

The Association is made up of 163 Member churches of the Association, mainly located in Berkshire, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Guernsey, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Oxfordshire and Wiltshire. Churches are also located in Buckinghamshire, Middlesex, Northamptonshire, Surrey, Sussex and Warwickshire. Wantage Christian Fellowship became a member 2 November 2016.

The Regional Ministers gave regular input to individual churches about good practice, backed up by the resources of Baptist House, as well as being involved in conflict resolution when necessary.

The SCBA financially supports and participates in the Footsteps course run by Regent's Park College, Oxford University. The course is led by Mrs Anne Lane as Community Tutor in partnership with the Association. The College offers one and two year courses together with occasional one day events to between 20 and 30 students, meeting once a month on Saturdays, together with courses offered on evenings over periods of 6 to 8 weeks based on one evening per week.

The testing of the call to ministry is carried out by a Ministerial Recognition Group formed as part of the South West Partnership and is now carried out at residential conferences within the four Associations.

The Regional Ministers also oversee the development of Ministers during their first three years of ministry. Five Ministers became Fully Accredited Ministers and recognised at the Baptist Assembly Sixteen Newly Accredited Ministers gathered together for two reflection sessions in February and September

A new Association website continues to be developed and with regular emails to all churches offering regular advice on many issues, helping the ministers and deacons to lead their churches well.

Advice was given to individual churches about various current issues.

The Regional Ministry Team and the Finance Task Group vetted and advised on the applications for Home Mission grants from 13 churches and 4 non church organisations, which were then endorsed by the West and South Partnership. These grants enable the churches and organisations to call or employ Baptist Ministers to serve and fulfil their aims and objectives.

Review of significant charitable activities undertaken.

Advice is given on mission by the Regional Ministers as requested by individual churches. This is done in a more formal way through the Mission Consultancy run by the Association whereby pairs of Consultants, trained within the Association, work alongside churches for a period of one year. This is a rolling programme both in terms of training the Consultants and serving the churches.

Safeguarding training is being run across the association in the light of revised national policies and procedures. Seven Safeguarding Training Sessions were held throughout the year with over 370 Church staff and volunteers trained in Safeguarding which this year included Safeguarding Training for Adults at Risk.

The appointment of Revd Alison Boulton, as Pioneer Mission Enabler, is creating opportunities to initiate and support new and exciting ways of mission across the association. Forty seven women attended two reflection days

run by the BU President; Jenni Entrican. Nineteen people attended a BUGB Finance Roadshow in our Association in January.

Report of the Trustees and Directors for the year ended 31 December 2016

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - CONTINUED

Review of achievements against objectives set.

The Association will continue to provide support to member Churches and ministers during the coming year. A programme of training events and educational seminars is planned throughout the coming year. In addition the Council and the Regional Ministry Team will consider ways in which the Association' services to churches can be further developed.

Review of performance of material fundraising activities against the fundraising objectives set.

A number of grants were made to individuals for education and development, and loans were made to churches for building work. The Association administers the grant application process on behalf of the Baptist Union of Great Britain in respect of member churches and sector ministries and chaplains (eg chaplains in higher education and industry) in conjunction with the South West Partnership. The Association has a major responsibility for encouraging churches to donate funds for the Baptist Home Mission Appeal but such encouragement is limited to drawing attention to the need and benefits during meetings and sermons, on its website, and in letters from the Treasurer. The Association does not conduct fundraising events, lotteries, or sell goods to raise funds for Home Mission.

The Association is not permitted to raise funds to meet its operational or administrative costs, other than to meet the expenses of events, such as training days. However, the Association does receive gifts for the Confidential Fund, established to relieve the hardship of retired minister or their widows. A grant of the money raised for Baptist Home Mission in 2016 was given to the Association to assist in meeting staff salaries and administrative costs in 2017. This is the principal source of income to cover the operating costs of the Association.

Review of investment performance against the investment objectives set where material financial investments are held

Funds not required for immediate purposes are deposited with the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd (BUC), which employs investment managers. The Baptist Union Trustees monitor investment performance through their Finance and Audit Committee. New Deposit accounts with improved interest returns will be introduced during 2017 by the Corporation.

Review of any material expenditure incurred to raise income in the future.

In reviewing its achievements and performance, the charity should include a summary of the *measures or indicators used to assess performance* when it provides evidence of the achievements in the reporting period.

Comment on those significant positive and negative factors both within and outside the charity's control which have affected the achievement of its objectives, and where relevant, explain how this has affected future plans.

Risk Management

The comprehensive risk management review carried out in 2010 resulted in a risk register being adopted by the Council as Trustees. During 2016 work continued to identify ongoing risks and to ensure that controls are in place to mitigate the risks as recorded on the register. Where appropriate, risks are covered by insurance.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

During 2016 the overall funds of the Association increased by £845,345 (2015: decrease of £154,008).

The Association had Unrestricted General Funds of £1,856,130 at the period end. At present three of the Regional Ministers receive a Housing allowance but the Trustees recognised that there is the probability of having to purchase two properties in the future. Average house values in our geographical area would suggest that £750,000 would be needed to fulfil this requirement.

The Net Movement on Designated Funds was £101,213 excess of income over expenditure. This was primarily due to the ongoing use of the Mission Development Fund for grants to church and other mission projects. At the year end the total balance of designated funds was £256,320.

The Association is part of a very complex multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme comprising approximately 1,200 employers. Work is in hand to provide details of individual debts by employer, which is

anticipated to be complete by the second half of 2016. Until then it is not possible to include employer debt figures in these statements.

Report of the Trustees and Directors for the year ended 31 December 2016

Reserves policy and going concern

The Trustees have agreed that the Association should retain reserves equivalent to nine months running costs (£317,000) within the Unrestricted Funds, together with one year of Grant funding from the Associations own resources where grants are expected to be needed beyond the current year (£142,000). This latter is to reflect commitments, often staff related, which have been entered into by grant receiving churches. On this basis reserves of £459,000 are required. Excluding fixed assets and restricted funds the Associations free reserves were £2,058,914 giving cover of 4.48 times. The Trustees will continue with their long term plan to reduce the reserves on a managed basis.

Funds amounting to £549,522 are held as Loan Funds for interest free loans to churches.

Given the level of reserves the Trustees consider the Association remains a going concern.

Plans for future periods

During 2017, the charitable company will seek to continue to fulfil its objects in creative ways that will assist in the advancement of the Christian religion and the enrichment of church and community life in the Southern Counties.

This will include:

The recruitment of a new Regional Minister – Children, Youth and Families on the retirement of the present holder.

The search for a new Treasurer to replace the present incumbent in the Autumn of 2017.

Offering the vision and values to the churches of the Association for comments and adoption.

Governance Training for the trustees.

Further development of the DBS service and Safeguarding training available to ministers and churches by the recruitment of up to four further trainers.

Improving communications with member churches upgrading the website.

Continuing use of the Baptists Together database.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charitable company is governed by its Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association and Rules.

The Objects of this charitable company are the advancement of the Christian religion especially by the means of and in accordance with the principles of the Baptist denomination as set out for the time being in the Declaration of Principle of The Baptist Union of Great Britain.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The charitable company is run by its Board of Trustees who are also directors and who met five times during 2016.

The ongoing work of the association through Task Groups was reorganised with the establishment of the following five Strategy/Working Groups:

Staffing, Finance and Administration Leadership and Ministerial Development Children, Youth and Family Mission Enabling Safeguarding

The groups are made up of Trustees, Officers and members from the churches of the association. Each group is developing and implementing their Terms of Reference, Action Plans and Budget requirements which are approved by the Board of Trustees.

Report of the Trustees and Directors for the year ended 31 December 2016

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT - CONTINUED

Recruitment and appointment of trustees - continued

Trustees at 31 December 2016

The Moderator and Treasurer who are elected tri-annually by the members of the Association.

Moderator Mr Mike Mortimer – Elected by the members of the charitable company

on 3 November 2016

Treasurer Mr Edward John Greenwood -

Elected by the members of the charitable company

Regional Minister – Team Leader The Revd Grenville Overton

Company Secretary Mr Jonathan Spiller - Co-opted by the remaining trustees

Mr Klynn Alibocus Co-opted by the remaining trustees

Revd Anthony Clarke
Revd Nigel Cox
Elected by the members of the charitable company
Mrs Melvina Fawcett
Revd Simon Ford
Revd Jonathan Hunt
Elected by the members of the charitable company
Co-opted by the remaining trustees on 5 May 2016
Elected by the members of the charitable company

Mrs Anne Lane Co-opted by the remaining trustees

Revd James Neve Resigned 3 November 2016
Mr Andrew North Resigned 3 November 2016
Mrs Carol Rhodes Resigned 30 November 2016

Mr Geoff Coop, Revd James Neve, Mr Andrew North all came to the end of their terms of office during the year and Mrs Carol Rhodes retired.

Since the year end and prior to the accounts being signed the following Trustees were elected - Revd Colin Norris and Mrs Ann Andrews

Trustees' Interests

The Regional Minister, Team Leader is a Trustee and Director of the charity/company. The total salary paid to the Trustee in 2016 was £42,300 (2015: £38, 780) with Employers Pension Contributions of £8,968 (£8,144). Expenses were paid to 7 trustees amounting to £16,078.

Induction and training of trustees

Prospective trustees are advised of the qualifications for serving as charity trustees and directors. On appointment, they are invited to a formal induction meeting with the Administrator/Company Secretary who provides an overview of the governing instruments and activities of the charitable company.

Related Parties

The charitable company is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, paying a subscription to this charity. Funds from the Home Mission Fund, which is the principle working fund of the Union, are received by the charitable company and dispersed by its Grants Group.

Key Management personnel remuneration

The charitable company consider their key management personnel to be: The charitable company's board of trustees

The pay and remuneration of the employees of the charitable company is set by the charitable company through the Board and its Finance Group and is based upon the Baptist Home Mission recommended stipend.

Report of the Trustees and Directors for the year ended 31 December 2016

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Number 1091066 Registered Company Number 4279837

Registered Office Southern Counties Baptist Association

Baptist House 129 Broadway Didcot OX11 8XD

Regional Ministers serving the Association during 2016:

Revd Grenville Overton (Regional Minister Team Leader, Pastoral Oversight South and West)

Revd Colin Norris (Regional Minister Pastoral Oversight North and Mission Development)

Revd Alison Boulton (Regional Minister Pioneer Mission Enabler) half time

Revd Jacky Storey (Regional Minister Pastoral Children, Youth and Families) half time.

The following staff served the Association during 2016;

Mrs Amy Allen (Association Administrative Manager) 31 hours per week.

Miss Stella Charles (Administrative Assistant) 12 hours per week.

Auditor Wilkins Kennedy LLP, Bridge House, London Bridge, London SE1 9QR

Bankers HSBC Bank plc, 186 Broadway, Didcot OX11 8RP

Directors' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The trustees (who are also directors of The Southern Counties Baptist Association for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing this Directors' Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom 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 the year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
- · make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material
 departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and prepare the financial statements on
 the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in
 operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate 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. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. In so far as the trustees are aware:

- · there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- each trustee has taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Report of the Trustees and Directors for the year ended 31 December 2016

Auditors

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' and in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to smaller entities.

This report was approved by the Board on?.: 2017

Signed

Mr Jonathan Spiller

Company Secretary of the Association

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Southern Counties Baptist Association

We have audited the financial statements of Southern Counties Baptist Association for the year ended 31 December 2016 which comprise of the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditor

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 6, 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.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Trustees' Annual Report² to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2016, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its 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.

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Southern Counties Baptist Association (Continued)

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees Annual Report.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; 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.
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime [and take advantage of the small companies exemption in preparing the directors' report and take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Peter Barton (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Wilkins Kennedy LLP

Statutory Auditor Chartered Accountants

Bridge House London Bridge London SE1 9QR

Date 18 September 2017

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account) for the year end 31 December 2016

		Unres	stricted			
	Notes	General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2016	Total 2015
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOME						
Donations and legacies	2b	-	-	4,960	4,960	10,914
Charitable activities	2c	288,276	5,000	-	293,276	312,806
Investment income	2d	5,927	318	1,212	7,457	7,521
Other income	2e	954,125	1,000	-	955,125	30,643
Total income		1,248,328	6,318	6,172	1,260,818	361,884
EXPENDITURE ON						
Charitable activities	3	395,725	15,010	10,263	420,998	551,670
Total expenditure		395,725	15,010	10,263	420,998	551,670
NET INCOME BEFORE GAINS/(LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS		852,603	(8,692)	(4,091)	839,820	(189,786)
NET GAINS/(LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS		-	427	859	1,286	(25)
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) BEFORE TRANSFERS		852,603	(8,265)	(3,232)	841,106	(189,811)
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		(109,478)	109,478	-	-	-
NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS/(LOSSES)		743,125	101,213	(3,232)	841,106	(189,811)
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS/(LOSSES) Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	9	4,239	-	-	4,239	35,803
NET MOVEMENT OF FUNDS		747,364	101,213	(3,232)	845,345	(154,008)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		1,108,766	155,107	105,838	1,369,711	1,523,719
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		1,856,130	256,320	102,606	2,215,056	1,369,711

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities

Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2016

	Notes	2016	2015
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Investments	5 _	53,536	52,250
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	6	908,794	285,895
Cash and cash equivalents	7 _	1,348,997	1,111,289
		2,257,791	1,397,184
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	8 _	(65,239)	(41,116 <u>)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		2,192,552	1,356,068
PROVISION FOR LIABILITIES			
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	9	(31,032)	(38,607)
NET ASSETS	_	2,215,056	1,369,711
	=		
FUNDS			
Restricted funds	11a	102,606	105,838
Designated funds	11b	256,320	155,107
General funds	11b	1,856,130	1,108,766
TOTAL FUNDS	==	2,215,056	1,369,711

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and Directors of the Association on xxxx and were signed on its behalf by:

Edward John Greenwood Director and Treasurer

Jonathan Spiller Company Secretary

The notes form an integral part of those financial statements

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2016

	Note	2016 £	2015 £
Cash provided by operating activities	(i)	230,251	4,099
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments Proceeds on sale of investments Cash provided by investing activities		7,457 7,457	7,521 195 7,716
Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year		237,708	11,815
Cash and cash equivalents as at 1 January		1,111,289	1,099,474
Cash and cash equivalents as at 31 December		1,348,997	1,111,289
(i) Reconciliation of net income to cash used in operating activities			
Net income Dividends, interest and rents from investments (Gains)/losses on investment assets (Increase)/decrease in debtors Increase/(decrease) in creditors Increase/(decrease) in pension deficit		841,106 (7,457) (1,286) (622,899) 24,123 (3,336) 230,251	(154,008) (7,521) 25 228,809 (63,206)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016

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:

a) General information and basis of preparation

Southern Counties Baptist Association is a company limited by guarantee in the United Kingdom. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 6 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are set out on page 1.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Southern Counties Baptist Association meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The financial statements are presented in sterling (£) which is also the functional currency for the charity.

b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charitable company has reasonable expectation that there are adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. It has therefore continued to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

c) Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

- Judgements in applying the entity's accounting policies
- Multi-employer defined benefit pension schemes
 Certain employees participate in multi-employer defined benefit pension schemes with other organisations. In the judgement of the Trustees, the charity does not have sufficient information on the plan assets and liabilities to be able to reliably account for its share of the defined benefit obligation and plan assets. Therefore, the schemes are accounted for as defined contribution schemes: see note 4e and 9 for further details.
- Accounting estimates and assumptions
- Multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme: Baptist Union Staff Pension Scheme
 The charity has an obligation to pay a deficit funding arrangement in respect of the multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme. The present value of the obligation depends on a number of factors including the RPI rate and the discount rate on corporate bonds. Management estimates these factors in determining the new pension obligation in the balance sheet.
- Recoverability of loan
 The recoverability of loans are assessed annually, and at the balance sheet date provisions for doubtful debts are provided based on prior year experiences.

d) Legal status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £10.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

e) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds - represent those funds which can be used in accordance with the Association's charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated funds – represent those funds set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects

Restricted funds – can only be used for a particular restricted purpose within the charitable objects. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

f) Income

Income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charitable Company has entitlement to the funds; any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met; it is probable that the income will be received; and that the amount can be measured reliably.

- Donations are accounted for gross when received.
- Grants receivable are accounted for in the year in which they are receivable.
- Investment income is included in in the financial statements in the year in which it is receivable.
- Event and Conference fees are accounted for in the period the event was held.

g) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT:

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

- Expenditure on charitable activities represents expenditure in the furtherance of the object of the Association.
- Grants payable are agreed on an annual basis and accounted for in the year in which they are committed.

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

Expenditure on office furniture and computer equipment is written off as incurred.

h) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs are those that assist the work of the association but do not directly represent the charitable activities and include governance costs.

Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the association and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs relating to the statutory audit.

Support and Governance costs have been 100% allocated to the charitable activity.

i) Fixed asset investments

Investments are held for their income generation and investment potential and are valued at market value at the reporting date.

Any surplus or deficit arising is include in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

j) Debtors

Loans are considered concessionary loans as they are made by the charity to further its purposes. Loans are initially measured at the amount paid, with the carrying amount adjusted subsequently to reflect repayments. There is no interest charged on the loan amounts. Where any loan made is considered to be irrecoverable an impairment loss is recognised.

Other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due.

k) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents in the balance sheet comprise cash at banks and in hand and short term deposits with an original maturity date of three months or less.

I) Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the association has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Accruals and other creditors are recognised at their settlement amount due.

m) Provisions for liabilities

A liability for the agreed pension scheme deficit plan has been included, in accordance with the Baptist Union Staff Pension Scheme Schedule of Contributions dated 31 March 2015.

n) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

o) Employee benefits

Multi-employer pension plan

The association is a member of a multi-employer plan. Where it is not possible for the association to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the plans as a defined benefit plan, it accounts for the plan as a defined contribution plan.

Where the plan is in deficit and where the association has agreed, with the plan, to participate in a deficit funding arrangement the association recognises a liability for this obligation. The amount recognised is the net present value of the contributions payable under the agreement that relate to the deficit. The amount is expensed in profit or loss. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as a finance cost.

A liability for the agreed pension scheme deficit plan has been included, in accordance with the Baptist Union Staff Pension Scheme Schedule of Contributions dated 31 March 2015.

Defined contribution pension plans

The association operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the association pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the association has no further payment obligations. The contributions are recognised as an expense when they are due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals in the balance sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the association in independently administered fund.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

p) Taxation

The charitable company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part II Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

2 INCOMING RESOURCES

a) Fees received

Fees received by the members of the Regional Team for preaching engagements are used towards meeting their expenses.

b) Income from donations and legacies

	2016				2015
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Church of the Year gifts	-	-	4,435	4,435	5,144
Confidential Fund donations	-	-	525	525	1,470
Loan Termination Gifts (SCBA Loan Fund)	-	-	-	-	4,300
		-	4,960	4,960	10,914

In 2015, £4,000 income from donations was attributable to the unrestricted fund and £6,914 to restricted funds.

c) Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	2016 Restricted Funds £	Total £	2015 Total £
Baptist Union Grant for Operational Activities	170,660	-	-	170,660	156,114
Baptist Union Home Mission Grants to Churches	117,616	5,000	-	122,616	156,692
	288,276	5,000	-	293,276	312,806

In 2015, £291,151 of income from charitable activities was attributable to the unrestricted fund, and £21,655 was attributable to the designated funds.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016

2 INCOMING RESOURCES - continued

d) Income from Investments

			2016		2015
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Loan and General Funds on Deposit with BU	5,063	-	-	5,063	5,453
COIF Deposit for SCBA Loan Fund (OEGBA)	63	-	-	63	67
Alden Memorial Fund	-	-	126	126	150
Baptist Insurance Co Ltd - Dividends	801	-	-	801	401
Abraham Trust - Confidential Fund	-	318	-	318	312
Fairford Trust - Educational Assistance	-	-	777	777	796
De La Mare Fund			309	309	342
Total Income	5,927	318	1,212	7,457	7,521

In 2015, £5,921 was attributable to the unrestricted fund, £312 was attributable to the designated fund, and the remaining £1,288 was attributable to the restricted fund.

Allocation

These allocations are in accordance with the decisions made by the Trustees/Directors in November 2007 and are designed to proportionately supplement the previous usage of earmarked funds of the Oxford and East Gloucestershire Association and make parallel resources available throughout the Southern Counties area.

Allocation of investment income from loan and general funds on deposit with BUGB

	£
SCBA Loan Fund (23.5%)	1,393
General Fund (76.5%)	4,534
Total	5,927

e) Income from Other Sources

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated £	2016 Restricted Funds £	Total £	2015 Total £
Preaching and other fees	2,923	-	_	2,923	4,933
Leaders' Days & SCBA Event fees	3,726	-	-	3,726	3,502
SCBA Ministers' Conference fees	16,922	-	-	16,922	14,348
BU HM Grant for Youth and Children's Work	-	1,000	-	1,000	-
Other Income	30	-	-	30	7,860
Closure of Redundant Churches	930,524	-	-	930,524	-
	954,125	1,000		955,125	30,643

In 2015, all of the £30,643 was attributable to the unrestricted fund.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016

3 RESOURCES EXPENDED

a) Total Resources Expended

Charitable Expenditure Support of Churches within the Association	Staff Costs (note 4) £ 185.931	Direct Costs (note 3b) £ 88,792	Support Costs (note 3c) £ 28.659	Total Costs 2016 £ 303,382	Total Costs 2015 £ 416,633
Home Mission Grant	•	117,616	-	117,616	135,037
	185,931	206,408	28,659	420,998	551,670

In 2015, £172,018 of the total costs related to staff costs, £355,643 to direct costs and the remaining £24,009 to support costs.

b) Direct charitable expenditure

		2016			2015
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Home Mission Grant	117,616	-	-	117,616	135,037
Sabbatical and Educational Grants	5,025	-	-	5,025	275
Travel	15,116	-	-	15,116	16,625
Leaders Days and SCBA Event Costs	16,481	-	-	16,481	9,710
SCBA Ministers Conference	19,119	-	-	19,119	21,319
Community Learning Tutor	4,000	-	-	4,000	2,000
Churches Together Grants	3,778	-	-	3,778	4,076
Church of the Year Grant	-	-	5,563	5,563	7,521
Confidential Fund	-	-	1,825	1,825	1,070
DFES Funds for Youth Work	-	-	75	75	-
Fairford Trust	-	-	800	800	3,900
De La Mare	-	-	2,000	2,000	-
Abraham Trust	-	1,500	-	1,500	-
Education & Sabbatical Grants	-	1,000	-	1,000	-
Loan Fund	-	-	-	-	143,000
Pioneer Mission Fund	-	12,510	-	12,510	10,510
DFES Fund					600
	181,135	15,010	10,263	206,408	355,643

In 2015, £332,042 direct charitable expenditure related to the unrestricted fund, £10,510 to designated funds and £13,091 to restricted funds.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016

3 RESOURCES EXPENDED – continued

c) Support costs

		2016			2015
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Support costs	£	£	£	£	£
Printing, Postage & Telephone	1,696	-	-	1,696	1,706
Publications and Equipment	1,898	-	-	1,898	2,446
Volunteer Expenses and Fees	2,726	-	-	2,726	1,769
Staff Book and Study Allowance	451	-	-	451	433
Insurance	1,544	-	-	1,544	1,372
Building Hire	2,190	-	-	2,190	2,398
Office Equipment and Phone Rental	2,563	-	-	2,563	1,924
Baptist Union Subscription	774	-	-	774	714
Professional fees	6,283	-	-	6,283	5,812
Other Expenditure	2,817	-	-	2,817	1,135
Bank Charges	603	-	-	603	220
Interest on Pension Deficit	914	-	-	914	-
Governance:					
Auditors' remuneration – audit fees	4,200	-	-	4,200	4,080
	28,659	-	•	28,659	24,009

In 2015, all of the £24,009 of support costs were attributable to the unrestricted fund.

4 STAFF COSTS

a) All Staff Costs

	2016	2015
	£	£
Salaries including housing costs where applicable	145,871	135,027
Social security costs	10,033	8,312
Employer's contribution to pension schemes	30,027	28,679
	185,931	172,018

No employees receive employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 in either the current or prior year.

The key management of the association comprise of the Trustees only.

b) Average staff numbers

	2016	2015
Full time Regional Ministers	2	2
Part time Regional Ministers	2	2
Part time Administrator	1	1
Part time Support Staff (Admin Assistants)	1	1
·	6	6

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016

4 STAFF COSTS – continued

c) Trustees' remuneration and benefits

The Revd. Grenville Overton, who is a trustees and Director of the association, received remuneration for employment with the charity for his work as Regional Minister Team Leader.

None of the other trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment within the association.

	2016	2015		
Trustee remuneration – non-trustee work	£	£		
Trustee remuneration	42,300	38,780		
Employer's contribution to pension schemes	8,968	8,144		
	51,268	46,924		
Trustees' expenses	2016 £	No of trustees	2015 £	No of trustees
Director's Expenses	13,981	1	8,134	1
Volunteer Director Expenses	2,097	6	1,790	5
	16,078	7	9,924	6

Trustees' expenses relate to the following: travel, accommodation and subsistence.

d) Trustee Indemnity Insurance

The Association paid for trustee indemnity insurance at a cost of £521 (2015: £493)

e) Pension Costs

The Association is an employer participating in the Baptist Union Pension Scheme ("the Ministers Fund"), and the Baptist Union Staff Pension Scheme ("the Staff Scheme"). Both schemes are part of a separate legal entity which is administered by a Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited).

Employees are no longer eligible to join the Defined Benefits section of the Ministers Fund or the Staffs, both of which are not contracted out of the State Second Pension.

Ministers Fund

The main benefit provided by the Ministers' Fund is a pension of one eightieth of final Minimum Pensionable income together with additional pension in respect of premiums paid on Pensionable Income in excess of the Minimum Pensionable Income. The Scheme started in 1925, but the Defined Benefits section was closed to future accrual of benefits on 31 December 2011.

A formal valuation of the Defined Benefit part of the Ministers Scheme was performed on the 31 December 2016 by a professionally qualified Actuary. The market value of the Scheme's assets is not yet known. The last valuation valued the Scheme's assets on the 31 December 2013 at £246 million.

As there is a large number of contributing employers in the Ministers Fund, the Southern Counties Baptist Association is presently unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities (particularly the assets). Accordingly, due to the nature of the Ministers Fund, the profit and loss charge for the period represents the employer contributions payable.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016

e) Pension Costs - continued

Staff Scheme

From January 2012, pension provision for both Ministers and Lay Staff is being made through the Defined Contribution (DC) Plan within the Baptist Pension Scheme. Members pay 8% of their Pensionable Income and employers pay 6% of members' Pensionable Income into individual pension accounts which are operated and managed on behalf of the Pension Trustee by Legal and General Life Assurance Society Limited. In addition, the employer pays a further 4% of Pensionable Income to cover Death in Service Benefits, the administration of the DC Plan, and an associated insurance policy which provides income protection for Scheme members in the event that they are unable to work due to long-term incapacity. This income protection policy has been insured by the Baptist Union of Great Britain with Unum Limited.

A formal valuation of the Staff Scheme was performed at 1 January 2014. No valuation has been made since then.

The valuation of the Staff Scheme revealed a deficit of assets compared with the value of liabilities of £3,600,000 (equivalent to a past service funding level of 59%). As a result of the valuation, in addition to the contributions to the DC Plan set out above, deficiency contributions from each employer to the Staff Scheme (now a closed DB Plan within the Scheme) were set initially at £1,500 per annum for each member of the Scheme (including deferred pensioners, pensioners and widow(er)s) for which that employer is responsible. These deficiency contributions will rise annually on 1 January in line with the Retail Prices Index at the previous September, and to reflect any reduction in the overall number of Scheme members, and are subject to an inflation adjusted minimum of £240,000 each year. The Recovery Plan envisages deficiency contributions being required until 2023.

In addition to these deficiency contributions to the Staff Scheme, employers also pay contributions to the DC Plan within the Scheme as specified above.

Ministers and Staff

The financial assumptions underlying the valuations were as follows:

Discount rate pre retirement	5.10%
Discount rate post retirement	3.95%
Rate of revaluation on deferred pensions accrued to 5 April 2009	3.60%
Rate of revaluation on deferred pensions accrued after 5 April 2009	2.50%
Rate of pension increases on benefits accrued to 5 April 2006	3.40%
Rate of pension increases on benefits accrued after 5 April 2006	2.30%

As there is a large number of contributing employers participating in the Scheme, the Association is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme. Accordingly, due to the nature of the schemes, the profit and loss charge for the period represents the employer contributions payable.

The staff also have the option of the Association making a contribution to a personal pension plan.

5 INVESTMENTS

	Brought forward £	Additions £	Disposals £	Investment Gain/(Loss) £	Carried forward £
Investments held by BU Corporation	45,180		-	1,286	46,466
Baptist Insurance Co	7,070	-	-	-	7,070
	52,250		•	1,286	53,536

There are no investments held outside the UK.

The equity investment relates to 1414 ordinary £5 shares held in Baptist Insurance Company Plc (registered company number 00083597), a public company limited by shares.

The fair value of listed investments is determined by quoted market price in an active market and gains or losses recognised through the SOFA.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016

S DEBTORS		
	2016	2015
Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year	£	£
Loans to churches	40,900	42,900
Other debtors	635,844	1,945
	676,744	44,845
Debtors: Amounts falling due after more than one year		
Loans to churches	232,050	241,050
	908,794	285,895

Loans totalling £65,500 (2015: £100) were made to churches during the year, £76,500 (2015: £63,000) were repaid during the year and £nil (2015: £140,000) of loans were written off during the year.

7 CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash held for SCBA deposited with BUC SCBA Funds held in BU Deposit Fund SCBA COIF Deposit Account CAF Account HSBC	2016 £ 272,273 971,823 14,864 3,561 86,476 1,348,997	2015 £ 269,709 772,687 14,801 3,580 50,512 1,111,289
8 CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within one year Accruals and deferred income Taxation and social security Other creditors	2016 £ 18,353 4,166 42,720 65,239	2015 £ 9,179 2,948 28,989 41,116
9 PROVISION FOR LIABILITIES		
Defined Benefit pension scheme liability	2016 £ 31,032	2015 £ 38,607
Balance at 1 January 2016 Contributions paid in the year Net interest expense Actuarial movement in the year	38,607 (4,250) 914 (4,239)	74,410 - - (35,803)
Balance at 31 December 2016	31,032	38,607

10 RELATED PARTIES

The Association is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016

11 ACCUMULATED FUNDS

a) Restricted

	Year Start	Income	Transfers	Spending	Capital Gain/(Loss)	Year End
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Alden Memorial (Loans Repairs/Extensions)	40,083	126	-	-	-	40,209
De la Mare	22,144	309	-	(2,000)	-	20,453
Confidential Fund	5,944	525	-	(1,825)	-	4,644
Fairford Trust (Education Grants)	34,684	777	-	(800)	859	35,520
Church of the Year	1,894	4,435	-	(5,563)	-	766
DFES Funds for Youth Work	1,089	-	-	(75)	-	1,014
	105,838	6,172		(10,263)	859	102,606

These are funds given or raised for a specific purpose or are defined by Trust Deeds.

Robert Alden Memorial Fund is to be used for Capital Loans and Grants Interest Free of up to £10,000 to churches which were part of the former Oxford and East Gloucestershire Baptist Association (OEGBA).

The De La Mare Fund income to be used for the furtherance of Mission and where necessary to meet costs of book allowances for Regional Team.

Confidential Fund (Abraham Trust) is to be used to support those in need in churches which were part of the former OEGBA.

Church of the Year Fund is to receive and distribute gifts received from churches for the annually nominated Church of the Year within the association.

DFES Grants is to be used for the training of Youth Workers. (Residual Monies given by DFES between 2005 and 2008).

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016

11 ACCUMULATED FUNDS - continued

b) General and Designated Funds

	Year Start	Income	Transfers	Spending	Gain/(Loss)	Year End
GENERAL FUNDS	£	£	£	£	£	£
Investment in Baptist Insurance Company	7,070	-	-	-	-	7,070
General Fund	553,567	1,246,935	(109,478)	(395,725)	4,239	1,299,538
Loan Funds (excluding Alden Memorial)	548,129	1,393	-	-	-	549,522
	1,108,766	1,248,328	(109,478)	(395,725)	4,239	1,856,130
DESIGNATED FUNDS						
Education and Sabbatical Grants	10,924	-	-	(1,000)	-	9,924
Abraham Trust (Confidential)	9,038	318	-	(1,500)	427	8,283
Children Youth and Families National Forum Fund	-	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Pension Fund Debt Reserve	-	_	109,478	-	-	109,478
Pioneer Mission Fund	135,145	5,000		(12,510)	-	127,635
	155,107	6,318	109,478	(15,010)	427	256,320
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS	1,369,711	1,260,818	-	(420,998)	5,525	2,215,056

General Funds are held to support ongoing activities of the company.

Loan Funds are held to enable loans to be made to member churches to support projects, typically building projects.

Educational and Sabbatical Grants Fund represents amounts set aside to support individuals from member churches through sabbaticals and participation in other educational opportunities relating to Christian service or ministry. The balance for 2009 for this and the Abraham Trust have been restated as designated funds, as the trustees do not feel that any restrictions were placed on the original gifts.

Pioneer Mission is a fund designated to support new and exciting ways of mission across the association. In conjunction with the appointment of a regional minister.

12 HOME MISSION GIVING

The arrangements for making Home Mission Gifts from churches to the Baptist Union were changed during 2005. A new joint account, SCBA/Baptist Union, was set up so that churches and the SCBA can transfer their gifts to this account, but only the Baptist Union has authority to withdraw funds. As the SCBA is not beneficially entitled to retain any of the monies given by churches for Home Mission, these gifts are transferred directly to the Baptist Union and do not need to be included in the SCBA's Statement of Financial Activities.

Giving to Home Mission by churches and groups within the SCBA Area was as follows:

	2016	2015
	£	£
Gifts via SCBA	352,211	390,709
Gifts given direct to the BU	-	-
Total gifts to Home Mission	352,211	390,709

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016

13 ALLOCATION OF CHARITY NET ASSETS

The net assets of the Charity are held for the various funds as follows:

	Fixed Assets	Current Assets	Current Liabilities	Total 2016
	£	£	£	£
Restricted	-	102,606	-	102,606
Unrestricted	53,536	2,155,185	(96,271)	2,112,450
TOTAL	53,536	2,257,791	(96,271)	2,215,056