Southern Counties Baptist Association

Annual Review 2021

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"Growing healthy churches in relationship for God's mission"

The Southern Counties Baptist Association (SCBA) is a family of around 150 Baptist Churches and Pioneer Mission Projects, spread mainly throughout Berkshire, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Guernsey, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Oxfordshire and Wiltshire, covering thirteen counties in total. Each church is independent and self-governing, that work together with each other in unity in the context of the SCBA, encouraging and resourcing each other.

The SCBA aims to:

Build strong relationships

Grow healthy churches

Resource effective mission

Enable lifelong discipleship

The SCBA is one of 13 Regional Associations which, together with local churches and colleges, makes up the Baptist Union of Great Britain (BUGB).

Charity Details

Charity Name:	Southern Counties Baptist Association
Charity Registration No.:	1091066
Company Registration No.:	4279837
Registered Office and Operational Address:	Baptist House, 129 Broadway, Didcot, Oxfordshire, OX11 8XD

Trustees:

Revd Anne Carter	Moderator of Trustees (to Nov 2021)
Mr Andrew Johnson	Association Treasurer
Mrs Ann Andrews	
Revd Stephen Barber	(to Oct 2021)
Mr John Bragg	
Mr Peter Brookes	
Revd Dr Anthony Clarke	Regent's Park College Representative
Mr Jason Collis	(from Nov 2021)
Revd Nigel Cox	(to Nov 21)
Revd Simon Ford	
Revd Dr Colin Norris	Regional Minister Team Leader

Regional Ministry Team:

Revd Dr Colin Norris	Regional Minister Team Leader
Revd Clare Hooper	CYF Missional Developer
Revd Stephen Barber	Interim Regional Minister (from Oct 2021)
Revd Jonathan Hunt	Regional Minister
Revd David Llewellyn	Regional Minister (to July 2021)

Staff Team:

Mrs Amy Allen	Administration Manager
Mrs Joy Cheang	Safeguarding Adviser
Miss Alysen Merrill	Administration Support (to Sep 2021)

The Aims of SCBA

Short-term:

- 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 lay leaders.
- Encourage dialogue within churches and 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, Pioneering and other Association funds.
- Receive and consider reports from the SCBA Strategy Groups and the Regional Ministers, enabling the charitable company to maintain effective governance

Long-term:

- Make Safeguarding training available on a rolling programme, encouraging and enabling members of our churches to receive training at a reduce cost or free, and ensuring that ministers have completed Level 2 & 3 training.
- Ensure, through its Staff, Finance & Administration 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.
- 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.

The Objective of SCBA

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.

SCBA Strategy Groups

Southern Counties Baptist Association seeks to carry out the aims and objectives of the association through the support of the following strategy groups:

SCBA Events in 2021

SCBA had a full year of events with over 400 Ministers and Leaders linking up with our Association via these events:

SCBA Ministers' & Leaders' Conference

In February, 90 Ministers and Leaders attended our 3-day online conference, led by Revd Beth Powney and Revd Tim Fergusson.
The first day of the conference, attended by 115 ministers and leaders, including Newly Accredited Ministers and Children, Youth & Family Workers, were led by the 'Transforming Lives for Good' team on Emotional Rollercoaster Training, offering therapeutic responses, approaches and activites to explore emotional health.

SCBA Leaders' Day

With the continued global pandemic, the June Leaders' Day was held online again.
The team were delighted that Ruth Rice, founder and Director of Renew Wellbeing, was able to join us, sharing about Wellbeing Cafes, about her own journey regarding mental health and how we can look after ourselves and support the mental health needs in our communities.

SCBA Leaders' Day & Annual General Meeting

We were delighted in November to be able to hold our Leaders' Day in person at Andover Baptist Church.
Our guest speaker was Revd Stephen Gaukroger, founder of Clarion Trust International, who led 100 Ministers and Leaders on the theme of: "The Post-Covid Church".
The day also included the SBCA Annual General Meeting.

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The full Annual Report, which incorporates financial statements, is available at:
www.scba.org.uk/governance

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