Interfaith Wolverhampton

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Annual Report for Year Ending March 31st 2026

Trustees' Report

Financial Statements

Interfaith Wolverhampton
Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2026

The Trustees of Interfaith Wolverhampton (IfW) present their report, which is also the Company's Directors' Report, and Financial Statements for the year ending 31 March 2026.

IfW is a registered charity (1114265) incorporated as a company limited by guarantee (3218967)

The registered office is based at: Beckminster Methodist Church, Birches Barn Road, Wolverhampton WV3 7BQ

Principal Bankers: Cooperative Bank

Officers and Directors of the Company

The following were the Honorary Officers of the Charity at 31 March 2026
President:
Patrons: Dr K Bradshaw OBE DL; Dr S Sharma MBE DL; Dr Michael Hardacre

The following were the Trustees (known as Directors) of the Charity during the year to 31 March 2026:

Management Board – listed as Directors in Companies House record:

Post	**Name**
Chair	Devinder Kalhan MBE
Vice Chair – Education Membership	Jill Parker MBE JP
Secretary	Rev Ben Whitmore
Deputy Secretary	Dr Hakeem Bakare
Treasurer	Martin Gomberg
Deputy Treasurer	Deacon Linda Gilson
Events Coordinator	Jasbinder Dehar
Co-opted	Cllr Harbinder Singh*

*Co-opted November 2025 – not listed as Director in Companies House

Consultative Board – Following very low attendance the Board is reviewing this board.

The Charity's Objectives:

As set out in the Articles of Association, are specifically restricted to the following:

1. The advancement of education aimed specifically at knowledge and understanding of the beliefs and practices of religious faiths with the purpose of the enhancement of religious and racial harmony within the City of Wolverhampton and its environs.
2. To develop the capacity and skills of the members of the socially and economically disadvantaged community of Wolverhampton and its environs in such a way that they are better able to identify and help meet their needs and to participate more fully in society by:
    a. providing advice and support on how they identify and evidence needs or priorities of their particular community; how they plan projects; how they source appropriate funding; implementation and sustainability;
    b. supporting specific projects that are of benefit to the community helping people to take a full role in and participate more fully in society;

c. the promotion of sustainable development for the benefit of the public by increasing awareness and knowledge in the area of energy conservation and the protection of the environment through prudent use of natural resources thereby assisting in the relief of poverty and the improvement of the condition of life in socially and economically disadvantaged communities.

Performance and Achievements 2025–2026

Interfaith Wolverhampton (IfW) remains firmly committed to its core purpose of promoting understanding, respect and good relations between people of different faiths and beliefs, including those of no faith. Throughout the year, IfW has continued to act as a trusted facilitator of dialogue by maintaining strong relationships with faith communities, civic bodies, educational establishments and voluntary organisations across the city.

Our role is to act as a bridge between communities by offering advice, support and opportunities for meaningful engagement. We believe that open dialogue helps prevent misunderstandings from becoming divisions and enables difficult conversations to take place in an atmosphere of mutual respect and understanding.

Through dialogue events, educational programmes, public engagement and the ongoing development of relationships within our diverse communities, IfW has continued to promote trust, reduce prejudice and strengthen community cohesion. Central to all our work is the belief that diversity is not a challenge to be managed but a strength to be celebrated and valued.

Bring and Share Sessions

Our monthly Bring and Share meetings continue to be a valued part of our programme. These gatherings provide a welcoming and safe space where people from different faiths, beliefs and backgrounds can meet, build friendships and engage in honest and respectful conversations.

Throughout the year, we have invited speakers from a wide range of backgrounds to explore topics of local, national and international importance. These meetings continue to encourage greater understanding, challenge misconceptions and strengthen relationships across our communities. (B – Beckminster Church, Z- Zoom meeting)

2025: May (B) - Kate Morgan, *Shared Lives*, June (B) - Kevin Priest, *Black Country House help for organisations to support people in learning digital skills*, July (B)- Mary Stella, *Talk about her faith and work*, September (B) - Suffia Perveen *CARE (Community Assistance & Resilience Empowerment) project* - Lottery Community Fund project, October – Toby, *The concept of the Messiah as understood by The Ahmadiyya Mulsim Community*, November (B) Rev Paul Nzacahayo - H*is faith journey & work at Beckminster Church*, **2026:** January (Z) - Dr Gilroy Brown Mount Shiloh Church, *His faith & work*, February (Z) - Julia Farrell, *Wolverhampton City Fairtrade Partnership*, March - Deacon Linda Gilson, *The Easter story through Art*

Educational Work with Schools

Our educational work with schools remains one of Interfaith Wolverhampton's most significant contributions to the city and its surrounding areas. We organise educational visits to places of worship, together with presentations in schools, supporting the Religious Education curriculum and helping young people gain a greater understanding of the beliefs, practices and traditions of different faith communities.

This important work enables pupils to encounter people of faith directly, ask questions in a welcoming environment and develop respect for diversity from an early age.

Between January and July 2026 there were 26 school visits to different Places of Worship, 5 in-school presentations delivered by 10 different faith persons. These activities involved approximately 1,980 pupils.

Annual Conference

Our Annual Conference continues to be an important opportunity to bring together people from different faiths, cultures and communities. Through keynote speakers, discussion and shared learning, the conference promotes mutual understanding, respectful dialogue and stronger community relationships. It also provides an opportunity to explore issues affecting our city and to demonstrate the positive contribution that faith communities make to society.

Our November 2025 Conference brought together more than 40 participants from a wide range of backgrounds and professional fields. Their contributions led to a rich and valuable discussion about the future direction of IfW. The ideas, insights, and suggestions captured during the Conference will continue to inform and shape our work in the years ahead.

These aim to bring together people of different faiths and none to explore topical subjects. Last year (2024) we supported the Religion Media Centre who organised a conference at the Molineux which explored how religious groups can help get good news stories into the media. In previous years topics have included: Organ donation (2017) Mental Health (2018) Prevention of self-harm and suicide (2019), Climate change (2021), Healthy faith (2022), Faith and Dementia (2023).

Working in Partnership with the City of Wolverhampton Council

Interfaith Wolverhampton continues to work closely with the City of Wolverhampton Council in supporting civic life and promoting community cohesion. During the year we were pleased to contribute to Civic Sunday Service, Remembrance Sunday Service and Holocaust Memorial Day. Our continued partnership with the Council reflects our shared commitment to building an inclusive city where diversity is respected and celebrated.

Working with Community and Faith Organisations

Interfaith Wolverhampton continues to work alongside a wide range of faith communities, voluntary organisations and community groups across the city. Through attending events, delivering presentations and supporting community initiatives, we continue to strengthen relationships and encourage collaboration across all sectors.

Financial Review

During the year IfW net income was -£2,191 this decreased our reserves (unrestricted) to £7,098. This is a little worse than last year when the net income was -£1,695. This year IfW improved its core income from Membership and Educational Services from £6,060 (2024-25) to £7,022 (2025-26). The Ethnic Minority Council has been busy bidding for funding on behalf of IfW and were successful in a Lottery Community Fund project bid which was delivered in 2025-26.

The Board is mindful of the need to keep expenditure under a tight control and will continue to ensure that we use our income prudently and in line with the objectives of the charity.

Public Benefit
Throughout the year, the Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Future Plans
The Board will continue to invest in the regular activities of Interfaith Wolverhampton reported on pages 3 and 4 and with the Ethnic Minority Council on bidding for funded projects.

Conclusion
Interfaith Wolverhampton continues to play an important role in strengthening community cohesion and promoting positive relationships across our diverse city. By working collaboratively with the City of Wolverhampton Council, faith communities, educational establishments, voluntary organisations and local partners, we continue to support the Council's vision, priorities and strategic objectives for creating a safe, inclusive and welcoming city for all.

At a time when societies can too easily become divided, interfaith work has never been more important. It creates opportunities for people to meet one another with openness and respect, breaks down barriers of misunderstanding and prejudice, and builds the trust that enables communities to flourish. By encouraging dialogue, celebrating diversity and promoting shared values, Interfaith Wolverhampton helps create stronger, more resilient communities where everyone feels valued and respected.

It remains a great privilege and honour to serve as Chair of Interfaith Wolverhampton. I continue to be inspired by the goodwill, commitment and generosity shown by so many individuals who give their time and energy in the service of bringing people together and building a stronger, more connected city.

Acknowledgements

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to my fellow Trustees and Board members for their wisdom, commitment and unwavering support. Their dedication enables our organisation to continue serving our communities with integrity and purpose.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to our patrons Dr Sathya Sharma and Dr Michael Hardacre for their unwavering support and commitment in exploring funding opportunities and promoting the work of IfW across a range of platforms. Their dedication and advocacy will continue to make a valuable contribution to advancing our mission and raising the profile of our work.

My particular thanks go to Dr Hakeem Bakare, Deputy Secretary, for his excellent work producing a newsletter and continuing to develop and improve our website, helping us to communicate more effectively with our members and the wider community.

I also express my sincere appreciation to Paul Rayner, whose many years of dedicated service in maintaining our website. His quiet commitment behind the scenes has made an important contribution to the work of IfW.

My special thanks go to Devi Bansal, our Administrator, whose professionalism, commitment and efficiency are exceptional.

Finally, I thank all our Faith Guides who welcome schools into their places of worship or visit schools. Interfaith Wolverhampton could not deliver this vital educational programme without their continued support.

As we look to the year ahead, we remain committed to building bridges of understanding, strengthening friendships and working together with all our partners to promote peace, respect and harmony throughout Wolverhampton.

This Report has been prepared in accordance with the small Companies Regime for Directors' Reports

3 September 2025

Devinder Kalhan MBE
Chairperson of Interfaith Wolverhampton

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Registered Office
Beckminster Methodist Church
Birches Barn Road
Wolverhampton WV3 7BQ

Company Registration No. 3218967
(registered in England and Wales)
Charity Registration No. 1114265

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INTERFAITH WOLVERHAMPTON

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2026

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund	2026	Total	2025	Total
Income							
Donations		**1,156**	**0**		**1,156**		**3,857**
Membership	2,837		0	2,837	0	2,904	0
Educational Services	4,185		0	4,185	0	3,156	0
Project Income	0	0	20,000	20,000	0	0	0
Interfaith events	94	0	0	94	0	40	0
Total - Charitable activities		**7,115**	**20,000**		**27,115**		**6,100**
Other trading activities		0	0		0		0
Investment-Bank Interest		0	0		0		0
Total Income		**8,271**	**20,000**		**28,271**		**9,957**
		0	0		0		0
Expenditure							
Office expenses		384	0		384		302
Insurance		420	0		420		420
Payroll		11,658	0		11,658		9,636
Rent & utilities		1,210	0		1,210		1,200
Educational Services		107	0		107		13
Project costs		0	16,000		16,000		0
Core cost contribution		-4,000	4,000		0		
Interfaith events		682	0		682		81
Total - Charitable activities		10,462	0		10,462		11,652
Fund-raising events		0	0		0		0
		0	0		0		0
Total expenditure		**10,462**	**20,000**		**30,462**		**11,652**
		0	0		0		0
Result for year		-2,191	0		-2,191		-1,695
Funds Brought Forward		9,289	3,561		12,850		14,545
Funds Carried Forward		7,098	3,561		10,659		12,850

There were no transfers between funds or other recognised gains or losses during either of the years ended 31 March 2025 or 2026.

The Statement of Financial Activities is also the Profit and Loss Account in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

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INTERFAITH WOLVERHAMPTON

Balance Sheet at 31 March 2026

Company registered number 3218967

	2026	2025
Tangible Fixed Assets	0	0
Current Assets		
Debtors and Prepayments	563	0
Cash at Bank and in hand	12,284	15,037
	12,846	**15,037**
Liabilities		
Creditors:		
amounts falling due within one year	2,187	2,187
Net current assets	**10,659**	**12,850**
Total assets less current liabilities	10,659	12,850
Provisions for liabilities	0	20,000
Net Assets	**10,659**	**32,850**
Represented by Funds		
Restricted Fund	3,561	23,561
Unrestricted Funds	7,098	9,289
	10,659	**32,850**

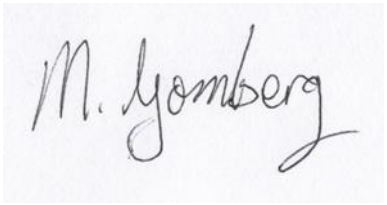
Directors' statement

For the year ended 31 March 2025 the Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' Responsibilities

1. The members have not required the Company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
2. The Directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of accounts.
3. The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with the FRS102 SORP.

On behalf of the Board xx September 2026



Devinder Kalhan MBE
Chair

Martin Gomberg
Treasurer

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INTERFAITH WOLVERHAMPTON
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

1. Basis of preparation

Basis of Accounting

The Financial Statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in Accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS102 version) published in 2019 and applicable accounting Standards.

The company is a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

There have been no changes in accounting policies or in accounting estimates during the year. No material prior year errors have been identified during the year.

Going Concern

The company is substantially dependent on grants and donations for the continuation of its work and the nature of these necessarily means there is some uncertainty about their continued receipt in future years. The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis and the Directors consider that this is appropriate, having regard to expectations of future grants and donations.

Reserves Policy

The Directors' policy is to maintain unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover between 3 and 9 months of expenditure from unrestricted and non-designated funds, together with the potential redundancy costs which would arise in the event that the activities of the company were to be substantially reduced.

Recognition of income

Income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the company becomes entitled to the resources, it is more likely than not that the Trustees will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Revenue grants receivable are credited to the relevant fund in accordance with the general income recognition criteria.

2. Fixed assets and depreciation

All assets have been depreciated to zero. Capital items costing in excess of £500 are capitalised as fixed assets and are depreciated on a straight-line basis over a period of 6 years. No new items in excess of £500 have been purchased in the last 6 years.

3. Donations and legacies

There were no donations of £500 or more received during the year.

4. Restricted Funds

In 2024/25 The National Lottery Community Fund project grant of £20,000 was initially recognized as income in Financial Activities. However the grant was reclassified as deferred income on the Balance Sheet. This reclassification ensures that the income is recognized when the funds are actually used (2025/26) for

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the intended project, rather than when they are received. As a result for 2024/25 the retained earnings on Financial Activities were reduced, and the Balance Sheet liability for deferred income was increased. Hence the Funds Brought Forward in Financial Activities (£12,850) and Balance Sheet Net Assets (£32,850) do not match but differ by £20,000. The £20,000 appears as an income in the Financial Activities for 2025/26.

5. Fund-raising Events (net)

There have been no fund raising events this year

6. Ivy Gutridge Fund

This Designated Fund (held as part of our Unrestricted Funds) was established by the Board of Trustees in 2005 to hold the Legacy received from Ivy Gutridge, MBE.

	2025	2024
Opening balance of Fund	5,507	5,507
Income (bank interest)	0	0
Expenditure	0	0
Closing balance of Fund	5,507	5,507

7. Fixed Assets

There are no fixed assets of value.

8. Debtors

£563 recorded for Debtors and prepayments (2024/25 £0 recorded).

9. Creditors

No Accruals for costs incurred within the reporting period.

10. Provisions for liabilities

There is £2,187 provision for liabilities (2024/5 £2,996).

11. Employees

In the financial years 2025-2026 and 2024-25 there was one part time employee.

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