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Hillsong



Annual Report | 2022
HILLSONG UK

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Tim & Nicola Douglass

Lead Pastor's Report

What an incredible year 2022 has been for Hillsong UK.

We have seen so many find faith, join church community, deepen their love for God and His church and so much more. Like every year, there have been moments to celebrate and moments of challenge. However, through it all we have seen the faithfulness of God, and the resilience and faithfulness of the people that make up this beautiful church community.

This year we have seen our locations continue to grow not just in numbers of attendance but of those who have found a sense of belonging and community. We have seen a 41% growth in attendance (compared to last year) with a total of 284,465 attending services across the past 12 months. It's been our greatest privilege to have seen 3,599 people choose to follow Jesus this year alone.

Across the UK we have an average of 640 people who volunteer each weekend in our services, and more throughout our midweek programs and ministries. We would like to say a huge thank you to each and every one of you, our church wouldn't be what it is without you!

In January 2022, we acquired The Hippodrome, a historic London Landmark, which has since transformed into our vibrant and welcoming community hub. The Hippodrome now serves as the central location for our North London community, hosting Sunday services, mid-week gatherings, and other services combined with our wider London locations. The possibilities for The Hippodrome's contribution to our church and the community are vast, and we're excited to see what the future holds. Together as a church, we have seen many wonderful testimonies through our Social Impact initiatives. For example, this year we launched a Community Grocery service in Liverpool. Through this we've been able to provide access to groceries for 195 individuals and families impacted by the cost-of-living crisis as well as

additional care to help battle isolation, mental health struggles and food deprivation. This has been a huge blessing to the community already and we look forward to expanding this program into Newcastle later this year.

Through our participation in the UK Community Sponsorship Scheme run by the Home Office, we are currently able to support eight refugee families. This amounts to 42 individuals that we have been able to resettle and help start life in the UK. Through Heart for the House giving, we were able to invest in two properties in Edinburgh and East London, providing a secure home for refugee families for the future. Our strategy is to provide sustainable housing and build a property portfolio that can continue to help make this scheme easier to access for those in need.

These are just a couple of examples of the impact we are having together as a church community across the UK.

We are thankful for it and vet full of faith and vision for all that we can still put our hand to and provide love, service and support to those in need in our local communities.

We are passionate to continue building toward a wonderful future with Christ at the helm, one step at a time. As we look forward to the year ahead, we're believing for many more Salvations, for people to find a sense of belonging, for us all to fall more in love with Jesus and His word and for our church to continue to be His hands and feet to the people in our cities and nations.

We love you very much and so thankful we get to do this all together!

John 13:35 NIV-

"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Chairman's Report

Russ Dacre MBE

Since joining our church in 2009, no two years have been the same, and 2022 proved to be no exception. Thinking back, as a community we navigated coming back from the COVID-19 government restrictions on gatherings, with our groups and congregations beginning to gather and building momentum. This rebuilding season which would then be met with a historic global leadership transition for our church, the resignation of our Founding Senior Global Pastors Brian & Bobbie Houston. This significant leadership transition, along with the media attention which followed, proved to be one of the most challenging times for our church both in the UK and globally.

At the beginning of the year, Pastors Phil & Lucinda Dooley were appointed as Interim Global Senior Pastors, and a global governance review was initiated. The goal of the review was to set the church up for the next season of growth by implementing better governance structures to meet the needs of a growing, and now global church. There has been great progress in these areas with many foundational steps put in place for the church to advance. This includes at a UK level where we have adopted the relevant recommendations from the review, and have started an appraisal of the UK Board, and its composition. The outcome we saw, was that some of the Trustees who have served for the maximum term, resigned in early 2023. I would like to express my heart felt gratitude to Scott Wilson, Ray Newton, Jeff Letsz, and Ed Simmons who have each served in this capacity for over 10 years, and some since the origins of our church in the UK.

This season of change has been remarkable, as we see God's favour, and love continue towards His people and His Church. I was particularly encouraged to read the report from Pastors Tim & Nicola, and the impact that the church community is having across the UK. With times of change we also must adapt the ways in which we operate, use assets, and manage our financial position. Our church has a legacy of generosity, and as such, we are fortunate to have a strong financial base including some property assets. In the last few years, like many other churches and community groups, we have recognised a leaner financial income position. It has been essential to reshape our cost base to fit the needs of the Church today. I would like to thank all those who have worked diligently to accomplish this, there have been many tough decisions to make, but we must continue to be good stewards of all that God has given us responsibility for. Thank you to all our Staff team who have served wholeheartedly and diligently, and continue to serve our church today.

I remain full of faith for the future of Hillsong in the UK and the across the globe. It's encouraging to see many thousands find Jesus as their saviour, to be part of a church community, as well as develop and grow as Disciples of Christ. Having transitioned through a very challenging season I am confident that we will continue to be good stewards of what God has placed in our hands and I look forward with anticipation to what God will do in the future.



CONGREGATIONAL ATTENDANCE

Median of
5997 weekly
(increase of +44% from 2021)

DECISIONS

Total of
3599 over the year
(Median of 69 weekly which is increase of +8% from 2021)

VOLUNTEERS

Median of
640 weekly
(increase of +27% from 2021)



Youth & Young Adults

YOUTH

It's been quite a year across Youth in our church, with many significant moments and memories. Though there have been changes and challenges to navigate, our youth community and team have rallied together in this time and are enjoying being part of the journey. We are ready to build for the future and to see God move in the lives of our youth community.

Across the year there have been several good reports and significant wins. Some of which include our Youth writing 50 cards of encouragement to young people in a refugee camp in Jordan, the new songs written by our incredible worship team and even many of our youth leaders having breakthroughs within the workspace.

CREWS

Crews have been a highlight as we have really been able to create space for young people to have deeper conversations about their faith and to make friends in church. We have also been regularly creating resources in the form of Crew Notes and Devotionals to help young people engage with their faith in a relevant and practical way.

SCHOOLS PROJECT

We have been able to continue with our work in schools, bringing the message of Jesus to young people in schools across London so that they have the opportunity to come into relationship with Him. Across the year, we have had the opportunity to speak to over 1,000 young people through our assembly programs.

SUMMERCAMP

Our Summercamp, which caters to ages 11 to 18, once again reached capacity with 350 youth and over 100 Youth leaders attending from our locations across the UK.

It really was a highlight of the year where we worshipped, prayed, experienced special moments and even got to baptise 30 young people! Summercamp really is a significant time for everyone involved, with so many great memories to come out of it.

We're looking forward to continuing to reach a nation for Jesus across all our UK locations, giving young people the opportunity to live and grow in relationship with Him. As we continue to do what we can, we are believing to see God do what only He can do.

YOUNG ADULTS

YA NIGHTS

Throughout the year, our Young Adults community gathered across the country for nights of worship, to hear the Word and to have ministry time. From more intimate gatherings in some of our locations such as Liverpool and Croydon, to joint gatherings with all our London Young Adults, we have seen many encounter His presence in life changing ways.

SUMMERFEST

We brought our Young Adults community together at Summerfest, with an increased focus on spiritual formation specifically this year. We were blessed to have guest speakers, Levi & Nadia Marychurch, Pastors of Local Church, Ottawa, invest deeply into our Leaders and Team. We have already seen much fruit to come out of Summerfest in our Young Adults community across the UK. A particular highlight, some may say a miracle, was that over 150 Young Adults decided to wake up early each morning to attend the all-new 'Chapel Sessions', a space we created for quiet reflection and prayer at the start of each day. We have had many stories of the Holy Spirit speaking intimately and personally to who came in for these sessions, which we think is just beautiful!



Sisterhood Lounge Room

The Sisterhood is for every generation of women across the breadth of our church community. It is a space where friendships and connections are forged, community is built, discipleship is offered, support is provided and with a leaning toward local and social justice to make the world a better place. Our monthly Sisterhood Lounge Room conversation, hosted by Nicola Douglass, has continued in strength where we dig deep into a variety of discipleship topics with emphasis on both theology and testimony. These conversations are accompanied by Discipleship Notes, which are a great resource can be used in Sisterhood Groups or for personal devotion. We have seen our

monthly Women in Leadership webinar empower women in their leadership spheres. This year, all our locations gathered the women of our church community for two faith filled Sisterhood United nights. At the start of the academic year, Nicola shared her prophetic heart for the women, and in March, our Senior Pastor, Lucinda Dooley relaunched Hillsong Sisterhood globally with a fresh vision. There has been so many wonderful reports of salvation, Godly friendships, support and outreach. We have seen beautiful community emerge from the gatherings of the women in our church and we will continue to come together to see value placed upon all womanhood.

Kids & Families



2022 has been one of rebuilding, regrouping, and growing in the right direction. We have witnessed the team rally together with an increase in joy and laughter, a deepened passion for the next generation, and a great sense of unity. There has been an increase in families who have come alongside each other in our Kids & Families department. This has then allowed other families to be able to bring their children and be part of a thriving community where they can enjoy themselves, have fun, experience God's word, and form beautiful friendships.

We are also pleased to announce the introduction of our new registration system, which has enhanced the safety and convenience for our families and teams. This system enables parents or guardians to easily register their children for various programs and events, ensuring a more enjoyable Sunday experience.

Our Kids' programs have been a true highlight, especially the Kids' curriculum which has been thoughtfully designed to include our Special Needs Kids. We aim to provide them with a more engaging experience through integrated props, imagery, and guidelines, enabling our leaders to then create a more inclusive environment.

During the summer of 2022, we initiated gatherings with our families in parks and other spaces, with the goal being to create an authentic setting where all families are welcome and can find support within their

church family with Jesus at the core of it all.

Throughout the year, we hosted many Baby Dedication ceremonies, where babies and children were dedicated to God across our locations. Families were able to share their joy in this special moment with their congregation and loved ones, celebrating the newest members of their families, some of whom may not have been so new due to the challenges posed by the Covid restrictions in previous years.

Overall, the year has revealed a genuine eagerness among our families to return to a place of worship, community, and friendship. We can see this from the consistent capacity attendance in our Kids Spaces on Sundays. It reaffirms our belief that families belong in the Church. As Hillsong Kids & Families, we are committed to continuously creating spaces where our families can grow together in faith and community.

TESTIMONY

"I love being part of a team and gaining friendships who are like minded in helping Hillsong Kids to grow in their understanding of who Jesus is and how important it is to show them who Jesus is at such a crucial age. We want them to have a relationship with Jesus and to remember how they met Jesus in Kids Church each week. This is my main reason that drives me to be a part of Kids Church that you make a difference in helping them in their journey of knowing Jesus."

● **Trudy – Kids Team**

Social Impact

Love Your Neighbour

In our Liverpool Location at the beginning of the year, we focused on providing food provision in partnership with local charities. Alongside this, we have built and created what is now the Community Grocery. As a Hub we have been able to provide 70 hampers weekly for our local community, door to door through referrals from our partners. Moving into 2022, our focus shifted to create a more sustainable and continual service through our local church. Where previously, we had exclusively worked through partners, we wanted to create a new avenue to invite the local community into our church building, offering services that would help many in all areas, including food.

For our members of the Community Grocery, we have further support that they may access alongside their weekly shopping, as well as a strong community within the wrap around care that we offer. We have been able to target social economic issues that people are facing such as financial difficulties, mental health, isolation and food deprivation. We aim to address more areas and continue supporting the community in the new year.

Our hope for the Community Grocery in 2023, is that we

continue to grow and become a hub for the community, a place that individuals can come to be transformed through a thriving environment with a welcoming atmosphere and multiple streams of support that we can offer.

In our Newcastle location-we have also started the groundwork for a Community Grocery Store, which will be opening in 2023. Whilst we have been getting the building refurbished and ready for this, we have continued to focus on food provision to our community through local charity partnerships. The economic conditions in the UK has meant many charities have struggled to keep their own food banks and support services open. We have been able to help provide for these charities with food so they can continue to provide the support for the people in their services.

As we have been preparing for the grocery in 2023, we have still been able to provide over 5,000 individual meals for our local communities through hampers and donations. Weekly providing food for 70 meals for the homeless as well as providing weekly hampers to individuals, families and charities.

Liverpool Location Pre-Grocery



Liverpool Location Community Grocery Nov 22 – Dec 22



TESTIMONY

'We love the Liverpool community shop; it feels like a welcoming space with amazing staff, and it has everything you need alongside the people.' – **Grocery Member**

'As soon as I came into the community grocery I was welcomed with a smile and the staff felt so warm and I didn't feel embarrassed about being here. The atmosphere is lovely, and I love to come with my son to do our weekly shop.' **Grocery Member**



Greenlight



387
encounters



78
Days of
activities



09
Current
partnerships

Greenlight is one of our local Social Justice initiatives, with a passion to make a positive difference for the homeless population. We are currently operating with two medical vans in areas of London and Kent. Week by week, our amazing volunteers reach out to the homeless population in these areas through our Care & Connect service, as well as our medical service. 2022 has been a year of rebuilding our partnership in a post COVID-19 world and exploring other potential partnerships. We were delighted to participate and support several Christmas parties for the homeless at the end of 2022 as the pandemic was coming to an end.

Our partnerships

Some of our partnerships include hostels, soup kitchens, churches, local councils, and NHS organisations. Apart from building relationships and providing minimal-invasive medical care, we also look at other opportunities such as hairdressing, language café, redistribution of donated items, signposting to other services and even Christmas parties. We are currently looking at more opportunities to enable us in providing a holistic and transformational service to the homeless population.

Some of the good reports we have received include successfully assisting two mothers and their children into accommodation and six people we met on the street have come to church services.

TESTIMONY

I joined Greenlight as a care & connect volunteer in November 2019. Soon after, I met 'A' on the street. He was originally from Iran and was seeking asylum in the UK. Despite multiple failed attempts in obtaining a visa, he would still prefer staying on the streets of London. I recalled our conversation that broke my heart, he told me his fear of being prosecuted and jailed in Iran if he returns. Since then, our team has developed a relationship with 'A'

and proud to help him both physically and mentally. Every Tuesday, he would ask us to pray for him & his elderly mother in Iran. Our prayers for him is for God to provide for him supernaturally on a daily basis and for God to grant him visa to stay without fear of being prosecuted.

Team Leader.



Refugee Response

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

Hillsong participates in the UK Community Sponsorship Scheme run by the Home Office and is considered to be a Principal Sponsor in the programme. The scheme gives us the opportunity to resettle refugee families to the UK who would otherwise not have the option to, giving them a chance to rebuild their lives and future. After an application with the Home Office is made and we are given the go-ahead from local authorities, we meet the family at the airport and take them to their new home. We are then able to support them with finding their feet in the UK for at least a year and help them with translations, accessing schools, connecting them to other services and providing social support. One of our main roles is facilitating finding accommodation, which may be through a property made available to the scheme with discounted rent, privately rented properties or church accommodation.

In 2022 as part of the scheme, we were able to welcome two Syrian families, as well as a family from Afghanistan and in January, a family of six moved to East London and were supported by a team from our Central London church. Our Croydon campus welcomed a Syrian family of

four in March and helped them settle in South London. In April, our team in Edinburgh went to the airport to meet an Afghan family of five and helped them set up life in Scotland.

Since 2017 we have welcomed eight wonderful families in total, seven from Syria and one from Afghanistan. This comes to 42 individuals that we have been able to resettle and help start new life in the UK through our previous years of Heart for the House Giving.

Throughout 2022, we've had approximately 66 amazing volunteers involved in supporting these families, including helping to paint, build furniture, help open bank accounts and accompany families to schools.

The Refugee Resettlement programme is funded by combination of donations directly for the programme, and a contribution from church operating funds to cover costs.

TESTIMONY

'Everything changed [after arriving to the UK] – the future, the children's future is better now. The Hillsong team helped us with schooling for the children, furnishing the house – nothing is missing. We have not seen any organisation do anything like this.'

● **Syrian refugee family supported by our Surrey location.**

Football United & Workshops For Refugee Youth

Through our Football United programme, dozens of young refugees and asylum seekers are able to find a place where they can forget about their challenges, engage in sports, make friends, and build their confidence and skills. In 2022, we were able to hold three weekly sessions across London in Croydon, Lewisham and Tottenham. The sessions see an average weekly attendance of 90–100 young refugees and asylum seekers, led by a team of 15 volunteers.

We held our second annual training camp, giving 24 key participants an

opportunity to engage in a three-day offsite programme of professional football training, mixed with mental health and life skills workshops. Our Croydon team organised 11 workshops for the Refugee Council Children Section in 2022, covering a range of topics and activities including goal setting, dance and construction. Coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic, the sessions were initially delivered online, and once restrictions dropped, the team went back into in-person events including our Summer and Christmas Parties.



TESTIMONY

'It was very nice play for me where I made friends. It is very important for me.

I feel better when I play football when I communicate with other players. When I play, I feel over the moon'

Young Refugee from Eritrea



Asylum Seeker and Ukraine Response.

Many asylum seekers in the UK find themselves waiting for an extended time to receive a decision on their claim. The majority of them are placed in temporary 'initial accommodation' across the UK with very little support, no right to work and a worsening mental health the longer they find themselves in this situation. Through our Asylum Seeker Support project, we aim to respond to some of the practical needs of these individuals and families in the form of clothing, social activities and English tuition.

We have been able to run a weekly 'Community Café' with HTB Earls Court for 80-100 asylum seeking guests. The Café provides a welcoming space where guests can practise their conversational English, receive a meal, and find other support. We have around 15-20 volunteers help us pull off these nights each week.

Next to the Community Café we have been able to bring some relief and support through a number of other initiatives. Our English booster classes helps 25-30 people seeking asylum with their reading and writing skills. Through our clothing bank we were able to give out clothing to 811 asylum seekers. This came from donations from our church, companies, and other organisations. In addition, together with Religions for Peace, we organised five outings throughout the year, taking our guests to Bournemouth beach, a Fun Run, the Science Museum, and organised celebrations in the summer and winter.

For Christmas, and thanks to the Love Christmas campaign, we were able to distribute 950 gift bags to asylum seeking children and youth across London.

UKRAINE RESPONSE

Through the Homes for Ukraine scheme, the government allows individuals in the UK to provide accommodation and support to Ukrainians fleeing the war. Thanks to the generous offer of a number of hosts within our church, we were able to connect seven Ukrainian families and individuals plus a pet dog to homes within the UK.

Our Guildford location put together 100 welcome packs for newly arrived Ukrainians in Surrey, intending to bring a warm welcome to those fleeing the war.

Other funds from the Ukraine Appeal were used to finance the relief efforts through our churches in Budapest and Ukraine to support those displaced and affected by the war. Our location in Hungary welcomed and hosted dozens of Ukrainians in the first few months after the war broke out. Our church in Kyiv has been on the frontline since the war broke out and continues to help people with food, medical supplies and other items needed for relief or rebuilding lives and homes.

As the war continues to have a disastrous impact on the people of the Ukraine, we are grateful we can play a small part in bringing some hope and relief.

Amplified Arts Academy

Amplified Arts Academy (AMP) is a performing arts programme for young people. AMP exists to empower, inspire, and equip the next generation to reach their full potential. We believe that art has the power to speak truth, shape culture and enrich lives. Our mission is to remove the social and economic barriers to first-class artistic education and provide an inclusive and nurturing environment where students can develop in craft, character, and confidence.

There is an ever-mounting body of evidence that demonstrates how active involvement in the arts can improve the wellbeing of young people, increase their future employability, decrease social exclusion and isolation, and help to make communities feel safer and stronger. A recent report from Community Links identifies active arts involvement as a primary tool for youth intervention, since it can be so effective for helping young people facing challenges to achieve positive life outcomes. In the context of the cost-of-living crisis pushing household budgets to the limit, opportunities to be involved with the arts, and all the benefits that come with that, would increasingly be something that only the wealthy can access. It's more important than ever that AMP can offer and extend our arts provision in a way that is accessible to all young people.

In 2022, AMP worked with 83 families and 97 young people, and awarded just under £10,000 worth of bursaries to remove the financial barriers experienced by many families who may not otherwise be able to access the type of programmes we offer. AMP's home at Community Links in Canning Town, has allowed them to build connections with local churches, charities and community groups who are all passionate about creating safe spaces for young people to thrive. We have some exciting projects and collaborations coming up in 2023, as well as the continuation of our afterschool club at St Luke's Church of England Primary School. Our next phase will see us add a second AMP location in Golders Green, which will create even more spaces for young people to be a part of our programmes.



TESTIMONY

'From a young age I've always wanted to sing and dance, it's how I was able to communicate my feelings – I live in an area where a lot of people, including some friends my age, get pulled into gangs, start hanging around the wrong people, or lose their lives to hate crime. Dedicating my Saturdays to Vocals and Dance at AMP has taught me lifelong lessons I shall carry forever: organization, teamwork, self-reflection, resilience and much more. Amplified Arts Academy turned a story, my story, from what was on its way to becoming ugly, into something beautiful.'

● – Emma, 17, Student

'I'm so grateful to AMP for pouring so much love and excellence into our kids' artistry. We had such a warm welcome from everyone at AMP, and we are also grateful for an environment that's conducive to building friendships. Until joining AMP, my daughter would never have performed in public, and she was so nervous, but the team made her feel so at ease – she loved the experience! We have been so blessed by being a part of AMP – and look forward to continuing to be a part of this family!'

– Clara, parent of Amber, 13.



London • Carols 2022

By focusing on the true meaning of the advent season and putting Jesus at the forefront, London Carols has always aimed to provide a meaningful and reflective experience for people in London. In a season that can often be filled with distractions, London Carols seeks to create a moment where people can come together and be reminded of the significance of Christmas.

Our aim was to recreate the same enchanting and awe-inspiring experience that attendees have come to know and cherish at the SSE Arena, but this time within the intimate setting of a theatre.

We recognised the tradition of the carols themselves and sought to reimagine their presentation in a way that would have a similar impact, albeit on a smaller scale. We carefully considered the unique strengths of the theatre venue and how we could innovate in this space. One notable factor was the venue's ability to create filmic moments, which prompted us to place greater emphasis on incorporating film elements into last year's event. We ended up creating a brand-new film resulting in a fresh experience for everyone

involved. The team was particularly enthusiastic about creating something new.

In order to accommodate all ticketholders, we faced the challenge of hosting nine services spread across three weeks. Our utmost priority was taking care of our wonderful team and ensuring that no volunteer would be serving in all nine services. We made the necessary arrangements by expanding our teams and allocating additional resources to staff to ensure adequate support and coverage for each service. By doing so, we were able to safeguard the well-being of our volunteers and maintain a sustainable approach throughout the event.

While the venue has changed, the focus on creating a meaningful and reflective moment around the advent season remains at the heart of London Carols' mission. By utilising the unique aspects of a theatre setting, through our London Carols, we can continue to remind all people in London of the real reason for celebrating the season and provide a profound and memorable experience for the attendees.



Global Partners

Hillsong partners with global social justice organisations who have the ability and expertise to operate effective and high-impact programmes, each seeking to release people who have been trapped in a cycle of poverty and injustice. We support these long-term strategic partners by raising awareness of their work and initiatives, facilitating opportunities for our church to participate or donate funds, and by contributing church funds and resources.

COMPASSION

Compassion is a Christian child development charity that believes the most strategic way to end extreme poverty is to connect a child in poverty with a sponsor, empowering them through multiple programmes with the tools they need to break free from cycle of poverty. Compassion delivers their programmes through local churches that provide education and skills development to children, including access to schooling, healthcare, nutritious meals, vocational training and Christ-centred guidance.

Hillsong partners with Compassion by raising awareness of their programmes and offering opportunities to sponsor children. Our partnership with Compassion focuses on Uganda and works with around 80 projects in this East African nation, through focusing on a specific country, we can see the impact of our collective contribution as a local church on communities.

In 2021 the Covid-19 pandemic continued to bring extreme challenges, with all communities experiencing the impact of long lockdowns, isolation, separation from education, and community. In response, Compassion focused on support with basic needs such as food provision and resources to facilitate school lessons over radio broadcast when schools were closed.

On 26 May 2022, we held our annual Compassion Sunday, during our services we highlight our partnership, the impact it is having and hear updates from our projects in Uganda. Through Compassion Sunday we were able to connect 245 children with sponsors from our locations in the UK.

At the end of 2022, just under 3,000 children were actively sponsored by the amazing people from our church in the UK. Since our partnership began in the early 2000's, we have been able to sponsor 19,433 children from poverty through our church, conferences and events here in the UK.

As part of our vision to eradicate poverty in the communities we support, we have been working through Compassion in bringing safe water to the projects where needed. Our 'Since the Water Came' project has aimed to bring safe, clean water and sanitation that is essential to eradicate waterborne diseases, lessen tension and violence and an increase school attendance. In 2022, five water projects were completed across Uganda, giving 3,500 Compassion supported children and 20,000 community members access to clean, safe water. Since 2009, Hillsong Church has been able to finance 15 water interventions across our Compassion projects in Uganda, impacting 43,964 people.

TESTIMONY

Rowland, a Compassion participant, expressed he'd like to share great thanks to those who provided the financial support for this intervention. He stated that the donors have valued and supported life – because water is life.



Vision Rescue

Reaching out with love

In the slums of India, Vision Rescue provides support that focuses on children, providing schooling and helping them access formal education, something they otherwise might never be able to achieve. To combat the challenges and mindsets that come with living in a slum, Vision Rescue supports not only the children but also their families and the wider community through their medical and dental vans, sport programmes, emergency interventions, vocational training, and the setting up of micro-enterprises.

In 2022, Vision Rescue was able to educate over 2,000 children who live in the slums giving them a chance to

shape their future. They also provided 1,5 million meals, engaged 780 kids in their sports programmes, trained 254 women in vocational skills and reached 7,000 more children through their School Support Programs. On a medical side, they were able to deliver medical and dental awareness sessions to over 25,000 people, screened 1,459 children at health camps and over 5,000 adults and children received oral screening.

Thanks to a great number of monthly donors from our church locations in the UK, Vision Rescue is able to impact the most vulnerable in the streets and slums of India.



TESTIMONY

"My goal is to set up a small parlour in my street, where I can serve clients, help other women like me earn, and provide for my daughter's needs. I'm so glad to have this skill that helps me be independent."

Heena (Participant of Vision Rescue's Beautician & Haircare course and mother to a 5-year-old daughter who attends Vision Rescue's Beacon Learning Centre)





World Vision

In 2020 Hillsong launched our partnership with World Vision UK by supporting the Adolescent Friendly Spaces in the Azraq Refugee Camp in Jordan. Adolescent Friendly Spaces are essential safe havens for (Syrian) refugee youth and provide emotional and psychosocial support, leadership development and practical skills training. Around 900 young refugees access the Adolescent Friendly Spaces through their various programmes.

Thanks to the support from Hillsong donors means that the centre can run their projects and impact young people on an ongoing basis. Hillsong was also able to fund sports pitches in the refugee camp, which have been transformational in the support World Vision is able to give to young people.

During 2022 we were able to strengthen our relationship with the World Vision project and the young people it supports. Our youth ministry have written cards with messages of hope and encouragement to the youth in Azraq, so they know we are thinking of them and praying for them. Some of our team were also able to visit the project in 2022 and see the incredible impact this partnership has.

A21

A21 is committed to abolishing slavery across the globe and has been working on this mission since 2008 in 14 countries. Coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic the frontline team was able to find creative ways to continue core programmes, including A21 hotlines, child advocacy centres and aftercare programmes, as well as leveraging online opportunities to promote prevention, awareness and educational resources.



Over the last 15 years A21 has reached 15.3 million vulnerable people impacted by prevention, awareness, or education resources, and 1.7 million minors were reached by their prevention and awareness efforts. A21's hotline has received over 50,000 calls so far and the team has been training tens of thousands frontline professionals to identify victims and report human trafficking. Over these years, A21 has helped restore thousands of men, women and children who were once trapped in slavery, to freedom.

A21's annual Walk For Freedom takes place across 70 countries in which thousands of people participate. The walk takes place every October in different cities, in the UK and we encourage our church members to join and make a powerful stand against human trafficking. In 2022, we participated in the walks in London, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Reading and Liverpool.

TESTIMONY

"[If I wasn't part of this project] I would not have had a plan for my future, I would not have known how to control my anger, and I wouldn't have viewed myself as a productive member of society. I would have regarded myself as a person with no value. This initiative provided me with the opportunity to become a productive human being with a purpose and to play a significant role in the community."

Azam, 17-year-old participant who has lived in Azraq Refugee Camp for the last 6 years



Buildings & Facilities



Church buildings and facilities are key to creating a place church can call home, and for equipping the church to build and serve its local community. Hillsong has a strategy to establish permanent buildings and facilities, because we are committed to local communities for the long term, and we desire to be a visible and meaningful part of areas where we have churches. Hillsong owns several church buildings in the UK and holds leases on facilities where we have the freedom to invest and fit out the buildings to our needs. Through the generosity of the church, including those giving to Heart for the House and as part of our Kingdom Builder community, we were able to make significant investments into facilities in 2022.

In January 2022, Hillsong UK was able to announce that we had completed the purchase of The Hippodrome in Golders Green, our first church building acquisition in London. This has been made possible by years of faithful giving and sacrifice by so many people, and we wish to thank everyone who played a part in this.

The Hippodrome is a Grade II listed historic London theatre, which has formed a new home for our North London campus, as well as a hub for activities like rehearsals, Amplified Arts Academy and Youth events. It also has capacity to hold larger conference-style gatherings in the future. We started Sunday services in April 2022 after significant building upgrades that we continue to develop. Barnet Council has since given planning consent for our long-term plans for The Hippodrome, focusing on the outside facade, auditorium seats, stage design and air handling to name a few. We believe that this building will allow even more people to find Jesus and community, and that we can work with them to begin to serve the local community and Greater London from this space.



Governance and Financials .

Hillsong UK is a registered charity in the UK. The church subscribes to a high standard of accountability and stewardship.

The following information outlines how the church is governed, structured, and operated, and how it manages its financial and legal responsibilities. Further information on governance is included in the Annual Trustees' Report and Financial Statements, or on the Hillsong UK website at Hillsong.co.uk/policies.

Corporate Structure

All activities of Hillsong UK operate via Hillsong Church London, which is a company limited by guarantee (Company number: 05487537) and a registered charity (Charity number England and Wales: 1120355, Scotland: SC051872). This means the company is governed by the Companies Act 2011 and regulated by the Charities Commission. Hillsong UK must adhere to all charity law and regulation and to the extent of their application, all guidelines published by the Charity Commission. Information on company governance, charitable purposes and financial results can be accessed on both the Companies House and Charity Commission websites.

Board of Trustees

The responsibility for governance primarily sits with the Trustees, collectively known as the Board. These individuals are in law also the Directors of the company. The responsibility for governance is outworked through three principal activities, compliance, assurance, and risk management. This is in line with the Charity Commission's guidance on Trustees and their governance role.

Trustee Selection and Remuneration

The Trustees are made up of leaders from within Hillsong.

The Trustees:

- Traditionally have been recommended by the UK Lead Pastor or Chairman and must be approved and appointed by the members of the company. In 2022 a new framework for the recruitment and appointment of trustees was established, with nominations for new future Trustees to be sought from a wide range of Hillsong UK trustees, executive and staff, followed by a formal review appointment process.
- Are reappointed every year by members of the company.
- Are separate to the management team. The UK Lead Pastor and General Manager do not hold the office of Director or Trustee but meet regularly with the Trustees to present information and participate in decision-making.
- Delegate day-to-day management of the charity to the management team and sub-committees of the Board. This means the Trustees are involved in reviewing management decisions and holding management accountable but are not involved in detailed management. The Trustees are involved in setting policy, significant financial decisions, strategy and planning, and resolution of issues or conflicts.
- Receive no payment or remuneration for carrying out their duties as a Trustee of Hillsong.

During 2022 a review of the board structure was undertaken. As a result of this review, it was agreed to consider a maximum term of service for trustees. Accordingly, in 2023 the longest serving trustees have resigned. In 2023 a search is underway to appoint new trustees within the new framework of independence, diversity, and appropriate skill.

Current Board of Trustees

Russell Dacre, MBE (Chairman)

Trustee since June 2015. A managing director of an automotive sales group, and the former chairman of a charity focused on youth activities, with extensive experience in the development, operation, and management of youth-based charities.

Raymond Newton

Trustee since August 2007, resigned effective May 2023. Company secretary. A former national chairman and managing partner of a major Australian national law firm, with extensive experience advising churches, educational institutions and charities.

Ed Simmons

Trustee since May 2013, resigned effective May 2023. A senior executive at a digital bank with experience in transformation director and chief operating officer roles within large commercial and retail banks.

David Bagheri

Trustee since September 2020. An executive of a creative industries venture, with experience in managing and developing both private and social enterprises, including developing and overseeing community development programmes.

Udonna Obi

Trustee since September 2020. An investment banker at a large international investment bank, with experience in church roles including youth leadership.

David Whitewood

Trustee since June 2015. A chartered accountant and former senior financial manager with a major international insurance broker based in the UK, with over 30 years' financial experience in a number of organisations both in the UK and overseas.

Jeff Lestz

Trustee since August 2007, resigned effective May 2023. A CEO of a company that provides financial advice and is regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, with

extensive management and financial experience.

Chiamaka Okeke

Trustee since September 2020. A partner of a London law firm specialising residential property with extensive experience in volunteer leadership roles within church.

Dr Scott Wilson

Trustee since August 2007, resigned effective May 2023. A church management and leadership specialist, who travels regularly throughout Europe, Asia and the USA presenting to churches on management and at leadership seminars, and has a doctorate of Ministry in Church Administration.

Financial Governance

Financial governance is a key part of the governance framework of Hillsong UK. Financial governance, processes and controls are developed and reviewed considering best financial and accounting practices, charity commissions guidance, charity governance codes and the expectations of church members.

Governance is led by engaged trustees and managed by the executive and management teams within staff. The financial management environment includes strategy and planning, process controls, separation of duties, a high

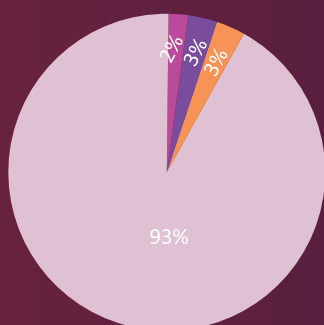


level of reporting and review, risk management frameworks and external audits. Accountability for financial governance and management is reflected in the role of board, financial audit, and the external reporting requirements in the UK.

Hillsong UK's financial record and systems are audited annually by a highly reputable large London-based external audit firm, currently RSM UK. Audited financial statements are lodged with both the Charity Commission and Companies House.

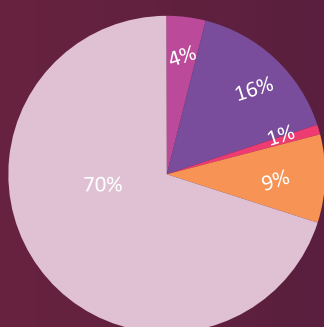
Financial Results

Sources of Income



- External funding
- Investment, commercial and other
- Conferences and events
- Donations and gift aid

How Income is Spent



- Conferences and events
- Corporate services, compliance and governance
- Investment, commercial and other
- Outreach, missions and social impact
- Sunday services, church programmes, pastoral care

The 2022 financial results for Hillsong UK were impacted by a number of significant factors. At the beginning of the year, the church had only returned to in person services for six months and was in the process of returning to full operational capacity. The financial position of the church has been challenged by this continuing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and needing to re-launch church activity in 2021, as well as deteriorating economic conditions within the UK specifically around household cost of living. Hillsong globally has seen a significant transition of leadership in 2022 and the circumstances around this have also contributed to changing financial results.

We were able to respond quickly to these changing circumstances, executing previously developed scenarios and taking extensive action to ensure financial stability. Primarily in 2022, it was agreed to embark on a significant cost reduction program during the year and fund the operations for the year from reserves generated in prior years. This strategy has been completed with significant cost reductions occurring during 2022, and in place for the start of the 2023 year. Cost savings can begin to be seen in the year 2022, where the total unrestricted costs are similar between 2021 and 2022,

however 2022 represents a full year of operation, where 2021 costs only represent 6 months of full post-pandemic operations. The 2022 year also includes various restructure costs which will result in future operational costs savings.

Despite the reduction in income for the church, all locations were able to continue to hold services and provide space for people to attend church, and our social impact programmes continued to be funded. Additionally, key investment was made available for priority initiatives such as Youth summer camps.

Most significantly, in January 2022 we were able to complete on the purchase of the Golders Green Hippodrome. This is the first church building Hillsong has been able to purchase within London. This purchase was funded by a combination of cash savings build from Heart for the House and Kingdom Builder donations, the sale of non-strategic assets and a mortgage. The Hippodrome has already become a home for our North London campus, and plans are in place to develop and restore the building to full use, to provide a building for church activity, as well as a key strategic property asset for Hillsong.

The 2022 Heart for the House offering was held in November and approximately 10% of the funds raised were directed to social impact initiatives, with the balance used to fund initial development works at the Hippodrome.

Looking forward into 2023, the impact of the extensive cost reduction activity will be seen in full, and the church must continue to be wise in financial decision making. The church remains funded primarily by the generous giving and donations from the church congregation, and

this is needed to continue operating and building a healthy church. The financial strategy in 2023 remains to be conservative with all spending, and for us to do our best to invest into the right areas of church life, all so that we may develop a stable and strong financial base for future years.

The financial statements of Hillsong UK are audited each year. An extract of these financial statements and a copy of the auditor's report are included in this report.

Statement of Financial Activities

For the Year Ended
31 December 2022

	2022 ↓			2021 ↓		
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Incoming Resources						
Donations	9,345,356	762,041	10,107,397	10,928,624	968,375	11,896,999
Charitable activities	587,012	-	587,012	387,978	-	387,978
Investments	111	-	111	636	-	636
Other income	146,903	-	146,903	28,467	9,000	37,467
Total incoming resources	10,079,382	762,041	10,841,423	11,348,705	977,375	12,326,080
Resources Expended						
Raising funds	251,178	-	251,178	3,172,446	-	3,172,446
Charitable activities	11,267,097	465,776	11,732,873	8,297,984	1,004,673	9,302,657
Total resources expended	11,518,275	465,776	11,984,051	11,470,430	1,004,673	12,475,103
Net movement in funds	(1,438,893)	296,265	(1,142,628)	(121,725)	(27,298)	(149,023)
Reconciliation of Funds						
Total funds brought forward	7,910,415	2,514,050	10,424,465	8,032,140	2,541,348	10,573,488
Total funds carried forward	6,471,522	2,810,315	9,281,837	7,910,415	2,514,050	10,424,465

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year.



Statement of Financial Position

as at 31 December 2022

	2022 ↓	2021 ↓
Fixed Assets	£	£
Tangible Assets	16,321,082	10,279,453
Current Assets		
Stocks	42,248	68,837
Debtors	1,376,861	1,521,847
Cash at bank and in hand	755,558	3,726,273
Total Current Assets	2,174,667	5,316,957
Liabilities		
Creditors:		
amounts falling due within one year	(2,743,084)	(1,777,624)
Net current (liabilities) / assets	(568,417)	3,539,333
Total assets less current liabilities	15,752,665	13,818,786
Creditors:		
Amounts falling due after more than one year	(6,470,828)	(3,394,321)
Net Assets	9,281,837	10,424,465
The funds of the charity		
Restricted income funds	2,810,315	2,514,050
Unrestricted income funds	6,471,522	7,910,415
Total Charity Funds	9,281,837	10,424,465

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022 £ ↓	2021 £ ↓
Cash (loss)/generated from operating activities	(68,306)	917,683
Cash flows from investing activities		
Interest income	111	3,636
Interest expenditure	(321,598)	(71,914)
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(7,265,925)	(2,573,215)
Proceeds on disposal of tangible assets	443,091	84,449
Cash used in investing activities	(7,144,321)	(2,557,044)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Proceeds of new loans	4,574,030	2,250,000
Repayment of borrowings	(240,158)	(2,431,527)
Payment of obligations under finance leases	(91,959)	(111,535)
Cash used in financing activities	4,241,913	(293,062)
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(2,970,715)	(1,932,423)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	3,726,273	5,658,696
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	755,558	3,726,273

Independent Auditor's report to the Members of Hillsong Church London

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Hillsong Church London (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements :

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2022 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.

Basis of opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Report, which includes the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report included within the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report or the Strategic Report included within the Trustees' 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.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities set out on page 10, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with

ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

Irregularities are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The objectives of our audit are to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, to perform audit procedures to help

identify instances of non-compliance with other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements, and to respond appropriately to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified during the audit.

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud, to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud through designing and implementing appropriate responses and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit.

However, it is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the audit engagement team:

- obtained an understanding of the nature of the sector, including the legal and regulatory framework that the charitable company operates in and how the charitable company is complying with the legal and regulatory framework;
- inquired of management, and those charged with governance, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including any known actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud;
- discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and where the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud.

As a result of these procedures we consider the most significant laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements are FRS 102, Charities SORP (FRS 102), Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, the charitable company's governing document, tax legislation and Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016. We performed audit procedures to detect non-compliances which may have a material impact on the financial statements which included reviewing the financial statements including the Trustees' Report and remaining alert to new or unusual transactions which may not be in accordance with the governing documents.

The most significant laws and regulations that have an indirect impact on the financial statements are those in relation to General Data Protection Regulations and Health and Safety. We performed audit procedures to inquire of management whether the group is in compliance with these laws and regulations and inspected correspondence with regulatory authorities.

The audit engagement team identified the risk of management override of controls and voluntary income and income recognition as the areas where the financial statements were most susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud. Audit procedures performed included but were not limited to testing manual journal entries and other adjustments, evaluating the business rationale in relation to significant, unusual transactions and transactions entered into outside the normal course of business, challenging judgments and estimates and testing income through a combination of tests of control and tests of detail, including testing post year end receipts.

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

Use of our Report

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

RSM UK Audit LLP

Nicholas Sladden (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of RSM UK AUDIT LLP,
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
25 Farringdon Street, London, EC4A 4AB

Date: 31st July 2023