

# TOGETHER FOR THE CITY

Annual Report  
2021-2022

## From the Trustees and Team

Another year has passed by and what a year it has been. So much has changed, with many facing upheaval and turmoil. Despite life's challenges, we can be assured of the constancy of God's help and presence as we continue to serve Him.

Looking forward to the next financial year, the challenges remain, but together we will seek to meet each challenge as we listen to and learn from our network. In the course of our day-to-day ministry, through many conversations and communications, we have been reminded about our core work which is to serve the business community by focusing on the individuals within their workplaces, but we have also sought to extend our reach to support businesses as well as individuals.

The context in which we now serve is quite different to when ChaplaincyPlus started its journey nearly 20 years ago and we are constantly challenged in regard to being agile and adaptable in an ever-changing world. One-to-one support of individuals remains our priority but to be responsive to the needs we see, we strongly believe we have to hold in tension the key strands of our ministry as one supports the other.

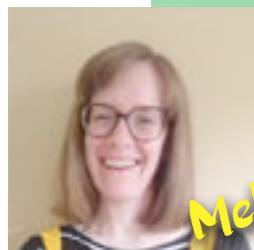
On behalf of the board of trustees, we want to thank you for standing with us through the most challenging couple of years many of us have ever faced. We cannot continue the work of Chaplaincy Plus without your support and we prayerfully trust that you will continue to journey with us.

Mark Jowett, ChaplaincyPlus Chair of Trustees



“**City Legal** continues to be a weekly source of encouragement and prayers for the Legal community and other business. It has become a safe space for Christians who work within the legal sector. A place to down tools for a few minutes and join in sharing fellowship and the wonderful words of God. I always look forward to the Friday morning meeting. It is and continues to be a blessing.”

“In **City Women**, we aim to keep in step with one another, amidst much that is changing at work and beyond. Our lunchtime meetings have recently explored, ‘Surviving and thriving through anxiety’, ‘Bringing myself to work’ and ‘Shifting perspectives – faith, work and life’. It’s lovely to get comments like: “Thank you for your very valuable conversation” and “It has been such a long journey made easier with you by my side”.”



“**City Vibes** has flourished into a strong community as we gather together for in-person events again. Highlights include record numbers for our Pancake Night – our first in-person Coffee and Cake monthly event, and a brilliant event ‘Unpacking singleness in the kingdom’ with two guest speakers. New members say that they ‘love this community’ and find it ‘inclusive and welcoming’.”

“I really look forward to **City Men** every month. Topics for meetings are always very personal with interesting speakers from the group. They help me live out my faith throughout the week not just on Sundays. We support each other and exchange ideas, and I’m very grateful to ChaplaincyPlus for organizing it.”



“**City Sustainability** continues monthly with regular attendees who wish to live and work in harmony with Creation. It is an encouraging time to discuss, share ideas & resources, and pray together – using our influence to make a positive difference including joining the huge number of Christians praying for COP26. Other topics this year included ‘Going for Green’ during the Commonwealth Games and ‘Reimagining Transport’. We share practical experience to promote better stewardship.”

“The **Birmingham Wellbeing Alliance (BWA)** opened the batting at the start of 2022 with new member Edgbaston Cricket Stadium. It’s been great to build relationships there through our Wellbeing Listening Service to a variety of people including groundsmen, the media, and office staff. We’re excited about our monthly workshops, and our re-designed unique quarterly forum that supports Mental Health First Aiders, which starts up later this year.”



“There is a popular belief that the success of science has displaced the need for God. **Science & Faith in the Second City** is series of six Christian apologetics talks that demonstrate that the Christian faith is compatible with modern science. The events are funded by a grant of £20,000 from the ‘Equipping Christian Leadership in an Age of Science’ project. They were delivered in partnership with various churches and Christian organisations in Birmingham. Our high-profile guest speakers have included Prof. John Lennox, and Dr Ruth Valerio from Tearfund.”

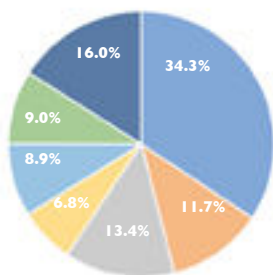
“Over the last year, we continued supporting leaders of **Christian Workplace Groups (CWGs)** by bringing them together online every two months, sharing stories, encouragements and ideas. We occasionally host guest speakers at our CWG Leaders meetings, the latest of whom was Geoff Shave who works with Agapé in South Africa and is involved in workplace ministry.”



“It was another wonderful **Carols for the Business Community**, back singing together in St Philips Cathedral. Your speaker, Andy Mackie was excellent, and I particularly liked the way that he took us through the Bethlehem Carol in prayer. Thank you so much for serving us in this way.”

## INCOME & EXPENDITURE

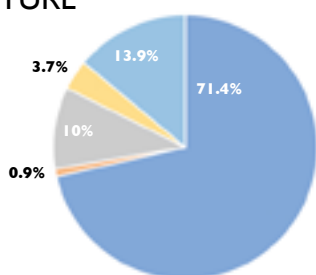
### INCOME



**Total Income: £90,670**

- |                             |                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Regular income - Individual | One off - Trust        |
| Regular income - Trust      | Gift aid & interest    |
| One off - Individual        | Wellbeing & events     |
|                             | Science & faith events |

### EXPENDITURE



**Total Expenditure: £104,047**

- |                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Wellbeing & events     | Staff costs     |
| Science & faith events | Support & Admin |
|                        | Office & IT     |

This year has been increasingly difficult financially, with several regular funders and a few individual donors having to reduce or stop supporting the charity. There were also additional staff costs as the charity continued to develop and promote the wellbeing and chaplaincy offer for businesses in the city in line with the charitable objectives and vision & values.

As a result, and despite the careful management of the finances and the generosity of all those who give, we ended the financial year with a deficit in our accounts. Once again, Covid played a part in some of the difficulty in additional fundraising. In the coming year, ChaplaincyPlus will reinforce sustainability with the addition of more paying clients for the wellbeing services, by identifying areas of cost savings, and through additional fundraising initiatives.

Chaplaincy Plus would not exist without the generous support of those who choose to partner with us through either a regular commitment or a one-off gift and we are hugely thankful for this support. We hope and pray that this report will encourage you and also prompt others to be part of the journey with us.

## OUR SUPPORTERS

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| • Birmingham Vineyard Church                          | • Limoges Trust                |
| • Equipping Christian Leadership in an Age of Science | • Mercian Trust (West Brom BS) |
| • G J W Turner Trust                                  | • Olton Baptist Church         |
| • George Henry Collins Charity                        | • Owen Family Trust            |
| • Knowle Parochial Church                             | • Roger & Douglas Turner Trust |
|   | • St Johns Church Harborne     |

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