

COMMENTS FROM OUR CHAIR

The ChaplaincyPlus financial year for 2022 to 2023 has been a challenging, yet fruitful year in many ways. Despite the challenges of working in a post-pandemic world, which is now in the midst of a financial/cost of living crisis, ChaplaincyPlus continues to have an engaged and supportive Network in the Christian business community. The Network is still supporting the ministry and remains involved in ensuring the core activities of ChaplaincyPlus continue.

Our network is vibrant, thriving, and growing - whether this is through 1:1s, Network Groups or Network events such as the Annual Celebration, and Carols for the Business Community. We remain grateful to those who support us either financially or by volunteering, and we continue to exist thanks to God's goodness and generosity of our supporters.

During the year, Steve Bavington moved on to a new role, and we held an event in February to thank Steve for his 10 years of service to the charity. However, we have also been blessed during the year to have had the input of Belinda Wadsworth from February until now (October '23).

Belinda has worked closely with the board of trustees and together, we took time to prayerfully consider the way ahead and carried out an in-depth strategic review of the charity and its objectives. Following this, ChaplaincyPlus is now moving forward into a new season of growth, building on the strong foundations laid over the last 20 years.

As part of the review, the board looked at the core activities and how we can best use the resources we have. When looking at the objectives, we realised that there was still a real need for the Birmingham Wellbeing Alliance (BWA). However, ChaplaincyPlus did not have the resources to continue with that work.

The board wanted the BWA to continue, so the work is in the process of being transferred to *Spring to Life* (a not-for-profit Community Interest Company) with a legal agreement being put in place to protect both parties. This change allowed the charity to refocus and work with the Network to strengthen and grow our activities, through Network Groups and events.

As we move into the new financial year, the charity is well placed to meet its core objectives in serving the Birmingham Business Community.

Mark Jowett
ChaplaincyPlus Chair of Trustees