

Reserves & Investments Policy

Castlefields Church, CIO, Charity No: 1192197

Purpose

To ensure that all money handled and retained by the Church is done so in the context of a desire to use such money prudently in accordance with Christian Biblical principles and in line with the church's Constitutional position.

1. RESERVES

The general policy of the Church in terms of reserves is to ensure that we have enough funds to meet our current & anticipated, short-term & medium-term expenditure.

At the end of each financial year, our financial reserves are reviewed to ensure that significant gifts can be distributed to individuals and organisations which have been approved by the Trustees & ratified by the membership. These individuals & organisations have similar aims to our own in furthering the Christian gospel & in practical Christian works of charity.

Substantial reserves are currently held in readiness for two specific matters namely:

- I. Gospel ministry – to provide a significant initial ‘salary guarantee’ to any candidate for full pastoral, preaching and evangelistic work.
- II. New premises – to provide funds to cover the immediate (and possibly ongoing) expenditure that would be required for professional fees / building costs etc in readiness for a rebuilding project or the acquiring of alternative premises.

These two specific reserves are shown in the CIO / Church accounts as allocated to these specific items. The intention is that they are reviewed at each subsequent Church Members Meeting in the Treasurer’s summary report.

2. INVESTMENTS

Current funds are retained in accounts with household name Banks & financial institutions that provide guarantees of up to £85,000 under the Government FSCS scheme.

The level of funds is to be reviewed regularly at Trustees Meetings & specifically at the AGM of the Church membership.

It is recognised that the present portfolio may yield returns lower than a more high risk investment strategy but security of funds is deemed more important than seeking higher returns through risky investments.

Policy Approved by Trustees Meeting & recorded in Minutes

Date: 06/08/24

Next Review to be undertaken:

Date: (max 12 months from above date