

## **The International Christian Church Network (TICCN)**

# **Governance & Accountability Statement**

**Approved by:** Trustees / Governing Council of TICCN

**Applies to:** The International Christian Church Network (TICCN) and all affiliated churches, ministries, projects, and partner organisations

**Review cycle:** Every 3 years or sooner if required by law or best practice

**Version:** 1

**Date:** 15 December 2025

## **1. Purpose of this Statement**

The International Christian Church Network (TICCN) is committed to the highest standards of good governance, accountability, transparency, and integrity in all aspects of its work.

This statement explains how TICCN is governed, how responsibility and oversight are exercised, and how accountability is maintained in line with UK charity law, good practice guidance, and Christian values.

## **2. Legal Status and Structure**

TICCN operates as a charitable network with national and international reach.

- TICCN is overseen by a body of trustees (or governing council) who are legally responsible for the charity
- Trustees act collectively and in the best interests of the charity at all times
- TICCN works with affiliated churches, ministries, and partner organisations, each of which may have its own local governance arrangements
- TICCN United Kingdom trustees govern the United Kingdom charity only
- International branches:
  - Have their own governance
  - Are not legally controlled by TICCN UK
- Oversight and guidance does not equate to legal responsibility

### **3. Role of Trustees / Governing Council**

The trustees of TICCEN are responsible for:

- Setting the strategic direction of the organisation
- Ensuring compliance with charity law and regulatory requirements
- Safeguarding the charity's assets, reputation, and beneficiaries
- Approving policies and procedures
- Ensuring effective financial oversight and controls
- Appointing and supporting senior leadership
- Managing risk, including safeguarding and reputational risk

Trustees act with collective responsibility and are expected to exercise reasonable care, skill, and diligence in fulfilling their duties.

### **4. Leadership and Management**

Day-to-day leadership and management of TICCEN is delegated by the trustees to senior leaders and officers.

- Clear lines of responsibility and accountability are maintained
- Leaders operate within agreed policies, budgets, and delegated authority
- Trustees retain oversight and ultimate responsibility

### **5. Policies and Controls**

TICCEN maintains a framework of policies and procedures to support good governance, including:

- Safeguarding
- Equality, Diversity & Inclusion
- Complaints
- Data Protection & Privacy
- Whistleblowing
- Financial management and controls
- Code of Conduct

These policies are reviewed regularly and made available as appropriate.

## **6. Financial Accountability**

TICCN is committed to responsible financial stewardship.

- Funds are used solely to further TICCN's charitable purposes
- Financial records are maintained accurately and transparently
- Appropriate internal controls are in place
- Trustees oversee budgets, expenditure, and financial reporting
- Annual accounts are prepared in accordance with legal requirements

## **7. Risk Management**

TICCN recognises the importance of identifying and managing risk.

- Trustees regularly consider risks facing the organisation
- Particular attention is given to safeguarding, financial, operational, and reputational risks
- Appropriate controls and mitigation measures are implemented

## **8. Safeguarding and Duty of Care**

Safeguarding is a core governance responsibility.

- TICCN maintains robust safeguarding policies and procedures
- Trustees ensure safeguarding is embedded across the organisation
- Leaders and volunteers are expected to uphold safeguarding standards

## **9. Accountability and Transparency**

TICCN seeks to operate openly and responsibly.

- Information about governance and policies is made publicly available where appropriate
- Complaints and concerns are handled fairly and transparently
- Whistleblowing routes are available for serious concerns

## **10. Working with Partners and Affiliates**

TICCN works in partnership with churches, ministries, and organisations in the UK and internationally.

- Partners are expected to operate lawfully and ethically
- Safeguarding and accountability standards are required
- TICCN respects local governance while maintaining overarching standards

## **11. Review and Continuous Improvement**

TICCN is committed to continual improvement in governance.

- Governance arrangements are reviewed periodically
- Learning from incidents, complaints, and feedback is used to strengthen practice
- Trustees seek to follow recognised good practice guidance for charities

## **12. Declaration**

TICCN affirms that good governance and accountability are essential to its Christian witness, public trust, and charitable mission.