

# ST AIDAN'S TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1039113

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 1994-06-29

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** Leeds City Council  
Corporate Financial Management  
Civic Hall  
Leeds  
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LS1 1JF

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**Email** [charities.queries@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:charities.queries@leeds.gov.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO MAKE THE TRUST LAND AVAILABLE IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR PUBLIC RECREATION AND LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION FOR THOSE LIVING OR WORKING IN OR RESORTING TO THE SOUTH LEEDS AREA.

**Activities:** To make trust land available in the interests of social welfare for the public recreation and leisure time occupation for those living or working in or resorting to the South Leeds area.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Amateur Sport, Animals, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment, Recreation
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** SOUTH LEEDS
- Leeds City

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£66,921	£157,792	-	-
2024-03-31	£64,863	£234,296	-	-
2023-03-31	£31,203	£124,363	-	-
2022-03-31	£8,980	£11,550	-	-
2021-03-31	£9,541	£10,572	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Leeds City Council		2017-04-01

**ST AIDAN'S TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1039113

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# Accounts

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# **ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**

## **ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 MARCH 2025**

**Victoria Bradshaw, FCCA, Treasurer**

**Charity Registration Number: 1039113**

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST  
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Trustee's Annual Report**

**Reference and Administrative Details**

Name of the charity:	St. Aidan's Trust
Charity registration number:	1039113
Address:	Civic Hall, LEEDS, LS1 1JF
Sole Trustee:	Leeds City Council
Represented by:	Cllr M Rafique (Executive Member for Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Spaces), Mrs Victoria Bradshaw (Interim Asst Chief Exec Finance, Traded and Resources) and Mr James Rogers (Director Communities & Environment), Leeds City Council.
Internal Auditors and Solicitors:	Leeds City Council, Civic Hall, Leeds, LS1 1JF.
Bankers:	National Westminster

**Structure, Governance and Management**

**Governing Document**

St Aidan's Trust is constituted in accordance with its trust deed as an unincorporated association. St. Aidan's Trust was registered with the Charity Commission on 25 May 1994 (charity registration number 1039113).

**Trustees**

Leeds City Council as a corporate body is the sole trustee of St. Aidan's Trust for the purposes of the Trustee Act 1960 and the Local Government Act 1972.

**Staffing**

St. Aidan's Trust has no employees.

**Affiliations and related parties**

St. Aidan's Trust is not part of a wider network of affiliated charities or similar organisations. Its relationship to Leeds City Council and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds is disclosed throughout this document.

**Leeds City Council**

St. Aidan's Trust stems from a planning Section 106 agreement between Leeds City Council and the British Coal Corporation under which an endowment of £1,000,000 was being held in trust by the Council. A covenant of the agreement was the transfer of land to the Trust at nil cost. The land transfer was completed in December 2016. No value is attached to the land because of the restrictions on the land. In 2005 the Council's Executive Board, acting as the Trust, agreed that when the transfer takes place it will lease the land to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB). In March 2017 the Trust entered a 99-year lease at a peppercorn rent with the RSPB to manage the site in accordance with the objectives set out in the trust deed i.e. for the establishment, maintenance and promotion of ecological, recreational and educational works and facilities.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Trustee's Annual Report (continued)**

Leeds City Council currently provides the financial administration and other administrative services to the charity at no cost. The financial administration and governance policies and procedures of the charity are consistent with those of the Council.

**Friends of St. Aidan's BE1150 Dragline**

In April 1997 RJB Mining (UK) Limited offered the redundant 1150 Bucyrus Erie dragline sited at St. Aidan's Trust to Leeds City Council and waived the scrap value of £150,000. In view of the history of mining and open casting in the Lower Aire Valley, the Council decided to retain the dragline as a feature of public interest. St. Aidan's Trust was deemed to be the appropriate 'home' for the dragline, and it is through the charity that the grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund to meet initial movement and restoration costs were arranged. There is an active and dedicated 'Friends' organisation which carries out much of the dragline and cartilage maintenance work on behalf of St. Aidan's Trust.

**Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)**

The St. Aidan's site comprises circa 400 hectares of restored land, which was transferred from Harworth Estate Investment Limited (formerly named Coal Mining UK Limited) to St. Aidan's Trust in December 2016. In March 2017 the Trust leased the land to the RSPB at a peppercorn rent for a term of 99 years. Also, in March 2017 Leeds City Council and the RSPB entered into a grant fund agreement to manage the site, now a nature park, on behalf of Leeds City Council. RSPB submit claims annually and the eligible costs, for agriculture, nature conservation and recreation are funded from the Trust.

**Risk Statement**

Leeds City Council, as sole trustee, has examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces as part of its development plans, and confirms that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks. In 2024, Leeds City Council's Executive Board considered a report seeking the Council's in principle support for the RSPB's (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds) proposed funding bid to the National Heritage Lottery Fund (NHLF) for investment into St Aidan's and Fairburn Ings nature reserves as part of the 'Wild Aire' project. The report sought approval for the allocation of £805,000 from the St Aidan's Trust as match funding for the project, with approval be given to negotiate and agree terms for the variation of the lease of St Aidan's to the RSPB, to help facilitate the successful delivery of the project, but unfortunately the bid was unsuccessful. The fact that Leeds City Council continues to work closely with RSPB over the site, this risk assessment is still considered to remain relevant. St Aidan's Trust uses the systems of Leeds City Council for governance and financial administration purposes. Therefore, the Council's own internal controls apply to St Aidan's Trust on the same basis and to the same extent as they do to any other Council function or service.

**Objectives and Activities**

**Summary of objects as set out in the governing document**

The purpose of St. Aidan's Trust is to make the trust land available in the interests of social welfare for the public recreation and leisure time occupation for those living or working in or resorting to the South Leeds area.

**Explanation of the charity's aims including the changes or differences it seeks to make through its activities**

St. Aidan's Trust exists in order to restore the St. Aidan's opencast coal site at Swillington, Leeds, as a significant recreational and nature conservation resource in the Lower Aire Valley. To this end, reed beds and wetland habitats have already been created for nature conservation purposes. There are now several large lakes on site for accommodating flood water and paths and bridleways have been established.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Trustee's Annual Report (continued)**

The 1150 Bucyrus Erie dragline is retained as an industrial heritage symbol of the area's coal mining history.

**Explanation of the charity's main objectives for the year**

The main objectives were to facilitate the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds development plan and maintain the dragline exhibit, whilst ensuring that investment income from the endowment is maximised in accordance with Leeds City Council's own investment policies.

**Achievements and Performance**

The transfer of trust land from Harworth Estates to St Aidan's Trust and the subsequent lease of the land to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) were significant developments during 2016/17. The cost for the RSPB developmental work for the year ended 31 March 2024 was £234.3k (£124.4k in 2023). The RSPB business plan for 2018/19 to 2020/21 estimated circa £554k. There was only £75.6k was spent in 18/19, £74.2 in 19/20, £10.6k in 20/21 at that point there was still £393.6k left on the plan to be delivered. £11.6k was spent in 21/22, £124.4k in 2022/23 and £234.3k in 2023/24 leaving £23.3k remaining on the previous business plan. In 2024, Leeds City Council's Executive Board approved a report proposing investment into St Aidan's and Fairburn Ings nature reserves as part of the 'Wild Aire' project, approving the allocation of £805,000 from the St Aidan's Trust as match funding for the project, but unfortunately the bid was unsuccessful.

**Public Benefit**

Leeds City Council, as sole trustee, confirms that it has referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities for the year. The benefits of the charitable activities of St Aidan's Trust are primarily to a section of the public in accordance with the charitable objects of making the trust land available in the interests of social welfare for the public recreation and leisure time occupation for those living or working in or resorting to the South Leeds area. The geographical restriction is deemed reasonable given the location of the St. Aidan's site. The public rights of way across the site have been adopted and are maintained by Leeds City Council.

**Financial Review**

The net movement in funds for the year was a deficit of £91,764 (2024: deficit of £169,433). This is due to grant claims to RSPB, less investment income.

St. Aidan's Trust has fund balances of £1,205,984 at 31 March 2025 £1,297,748 at 31 March 2024). Within this, £189,353 is restricted, representing an earmarked reserve of £39,353 for a bird hide and panel engineer costs and £150,000 for the net value of the dragline. St. Aidan's Trust's unrestricted cash balances are £16,631. The Endowment Funds are the original £1,000,000 endowment.

The assets available as at 31 March 2025 are adequate to fulfil the obligations of St. Aidan's Trust as a going concern for the next twelve months. The financial management policies in practice during the year are those used by Leeds City Council. Leeds City Council use a special interest bearing account (SIBA) which provides charities with instant access to their funds whilst earning the same rate of interest that the Council receives on its own cash balances. Subject to the expenditure requirements for St Aidan's Trust being established, £1,629,740 is the total cash balances, with £1,626,038 deposited in the SIBA as at 31 March 2025.

**Appointment of the Independent Examiner**

The Trustees approved the appointment of David Hoose from Forvis Mazars as Independent Examiner for the 2024/25 accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Trustee's Annual Report (continued)**

**Events since the end of the year**

There is no significant event that is having a material effect on the financial statements. Rising interest rates may have a positive effect on interest received in the next financial year.

**Plans for Future Periods**

By working in partnership with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Leeds City Council as sole trustee plans to continue St. Aidan's Trust's operations of preserving the dragline as a piece of industrial heritage and further developing the former opencast site which is now a nature park stretching from Skelton Lake to Fairburn Ings. The furtherance of these objectives is evidenced by the signing of a 99-year lease of the site between the two organisations.

**Reserve Funds and Going Concern Policy**

The Trust Fund was established in order to receive an endowment of £1,000,000 from British Coal in 1992/93. The purpose of the endowment is to fund the environmental restoration works which commenced upon the completion of coal mining at the St. Aidan's site. The charity's objective is to expend all its free reserves (these currently being £16,631 together with the £1 million endowment a total of £1,016,631) on the intended charitable purpose of managing and maintaining the St Aidan's site as a nature park. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds' (RSPB) business plan for 2018/19 to 2020/21 estimated circa £554k would have been required in order to fulfil their proposals in connection with the nature park. However, the RSPB had committed to seek to secure external funding of around £125k for new capital expenditure/projects. The plan has since expired, and a new business plan needs to be agreed. In 2024/25 a proposed bid and business plan were received by Leeds City Council Executive board, which was approved but the bid was unsuccessful. The other commitments for the reserves funds of the charity is the upkeep of the 1150B dragline, which was donated from RJB Mining. Maintain the Bird Hides and carry out site inspections which are currently provided by John Godsen Consulting Ltd. The assets available as at 31 March 2025 are adequate to fulfil the obligations of St. Aidan's Trust as a going concern for the next twelve months

**Investment policy**

The investment policy of the charity is that of Leeds City Council, which is to invest the charity's funds in secure, low risk deposits with reputable financial institutions. Whilst a new business plan is being drawn up, the funds of the charity were held in a high interest account in SIBA. A draw down proposal from the RSPB is expected from the proposed business plan in 2025/26. The trustees will also consider investing in low risk options with other reputable institutions not available to the public sector if a better rate of return can be achieved. Adopting a prudent, rather than speculative policy has meant that the charity's funds have been protected from decreases in monetary value as experienced by more speculative, stock market based investments. In the year ended 31 March 2025 income from bank deposits was £66,921.

**Organisation**

Leeds City Council is the sole trustee of St Aidan's Trust. This role was carried out by Cllr M Rafique Executive Member for Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Spaces, Mrs Victoria Bradshaw Interim Asst Chief Exec Finance, Traded and Resources and Mr James Rogers, Director of Communities and Environments, in accordance with the Council's regeneration strategies and consultation with relevant organisations and community groups. Appropriate consultative meetings with these groups and other Council services are held.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**STATEMENT OF THE TRUSTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE TRUSTEE'S REPORT AND THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Under the trust deed and rules of the charity and charity law, the trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustee's Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the excess of income over expenditure for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, generally accepted accounting practice entails that trustees:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- state whether the financial statements comply with the trust deed and rules, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are required to act in accordance with the trust deed and the rules of the charity, within the framework of trust law. They are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, sufficient to disclose at any time, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the charity at that time, and to enable the trustees to ensure that, where any statements of accounts are prepared by them under section 132 of the Charities Act 2011, those statements of accounts comply with the requirements of regulations under that provision. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

**Disclosure of information to auditors**

The trustee who held office at the date of approval of this trustee's report confirms that, so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditors are unaware; and the trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have taken as a trustee to make them aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Approved and signed on behalf of Leeds City Council, sole trustee



**VICTORIA BRADSHAW**

Assistant Chief Executive – Finance, Traded and Resources

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Leeds City Council, Civic Hall, Leeds, LS1 1JF

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

I report on the financial statements of St Aidan's Trust for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 9 to 14.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the charity's trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**


My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, which is complete, no matters have come to my attention which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of St Aidan's Trust in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

David Hoose   
Forvis Mazars LLP [David Hoose \(Jan 30, 2026 14:46:34 GMT\)](#)  
Three Chamberlain Square  
Birmingham  
B3 3AX

Date: 30/01/2026

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
		2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £
<b>INCOME</b>						
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Investments	3	66,921	-	-	66,921	64,863
<b>Total</b>		<b>66,921</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>66,921</b>	<b>64,863</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Charitable activities	4	(157,792)	-	-	(157,792)	(234,296)
<b>Total</b>		<b>(157,792)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(157,792)</b>	<b>(234,296)</b>
<i>Net Income / Expenditure before transfers</i>		(90,871)	-	-	(90,871)	(169,433)
<i>Transfer to / (from) earmarked reserve</i>			(893)		(893)	-
<i>Net Income / Expenditure after transfers</i>		(90,871)	(893)	-	(91,764)	(169,433)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(90,871)</b>	<b>(893)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(91,764)</b>	<b>(169,433)</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:</b>						
Total funds brought forward	11	107,502	190,246	1,000,000	1,297,748	1,467,181
<i>General Funds</i>	11	16,631	150,000	1,000,000	1,166,631	1,257,502
<i>Earmarked Reserve</i>	12	-	39,353	-	39,353	40,246
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>16,631</b>	<b>189,353</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>1,205,984</b>	<b>1,297,748</b>

The results are wholly derived from the continuing operations. The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 11 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025**

		<b>Notes</b>	2025	2024
			£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS:</b>				
Heritage Assets	5		150,000	150,000
<i>Total fixed assets</i>			150,000	150,000
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>				
Debtors	6		-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	7		1,629,740	1,562,819
<i>Total current assets</i>			1,629,740	1,562,819
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>				
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	8 & 13		(534,402)	(374,826)
<i>Total net current assets/(liabilities)</i>			1,095,338	1,187,993
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	9		(39,354)	(35,000)
Provisions for liabilities	10		-	(5,245)
<b>Total net assets</b>			1,205,984	1,297,748
<b>THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY</b>				
Endowment funds	11		1,000,000	1,000,000
Restricted income funds-dragline	11		150,000	150,000
Unrestricted income funds	11		16,631	107,502
Earmarked reserves	12		39,353	40,246
<b>Total charity funds</b>			1,205,984	1,297,748

These financial statements were approved and signed on behalf of the sole trustee by:



**VICTORIA BRADSAW**

Assistant Chief Executive – Finance, Traded and Resources

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Leeds City Council, Civic Hall, Leeds, LS1 1JF

The Annual Report and Financial Statements are filed with the Charity Commission.

The notes on pages 11 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**1. Accounting Policies**

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (October 2019). The particular accounting policies adopted by the Trustee are described below:

Fixed assets

No value is attached to the land as a result of the restrictions on the land.

The value of the 1150B walking dragline included in the accounts is the donor's estimate of the residual scrap value and therefore no provision for depreciation is considered necessary.

Income

Investment income from bank deposits is accounted for when receivable and includes the related tax recoverable.

Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis.

St Aidan's Trust incurs charitable expenditure funded from donations and other receipts. This activity is disclosed as restricted or unrestricted according to the circumstances of the income.

As sole trustee, Leeds City Council resolved to provide administrative support to St Aidan's Trust, for which no charge is made. The services provided are not quantified and therefore are not included in the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Governance costs

Governance costs are minimal on account of Leeds City Council acting as sole trustee. The independent examination is provided by David Hoose from Forvis Mazars at £2,340 for 24/25.

Fund accounting

The Trust maintains three types of funds as follows:

- *Endowment funds*

The endowment fund consists of the original endowment of £1,000,000 resulting from a planning Section 106 agreement between Leeds City Council and the British Coal Corporation. The endowment is expendable rather than permanent.

- *Restricted funds/Earmarked reserves*

Restricted funds represent grants and donations received which are allocated by the grantor, provider and donor for specific purposes.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Notes (continued)**

- *General unrestricted funds*

General unrestricted funds represent investment income accrued from the endowment, which is expendable at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the objects of the Trust. Such funds may be held in order to finance both working capital and capital investment.

Taxation

St. Aidan's Trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable trust for UK income tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 10 Income Tax Act 2007 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

**2. Staff Costs & Trustee Remuneration**

St Aidan's Trust is administered by Leeds City Council and so is not required to employ staff. No emoluments or expenses were paid to Leeds City Council as sole trustee during the year.

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Endowment Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
	2025	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>3. Investments and Other</b>					
SIBA and Monmouthshire Interest	66,921	-	-	66,921	64,863
Other income	-	-	-	-	-
	66,921	-	-	66,921	64,863
<b>4. Expenditure on: - Charitable Activities</b>					
<i>St Aidan's nature park</i>	(155,452)	-	-	(155,452)	(234,296)
<i>Independent Examination Fees</i>	(2,340)	-	-	(2,340)	-
	(157,792)	-	-	(157,792)	(234,296)
<b>5. Heritage Assets</b>					
<i>1150B Walking Dragline (Scrap Value)</i>		150,000	-	150,000	150,000

The 1150 Bucyrus Erie dragline dates back to the 'lease-lend' arrangement between the British and US governments leading up to and including World War 2. It now serves as a monument to the legacy of mining and opencasting in the Lower Aire Valley and as a feature of public interest.

The valuation of the heritage asset requires the use of significant judgement due to the unique nature of the asset and the absence of an active market. Heritage assets are typically held for their cultural, historical, or educational significance rather than for generating cash flows, which limits the availability of conventional valuation inputs. The Trustees have determined that the most appropriate valuation for the heritage asset is scrap value, and a new valuation is being obtained for the 25/26 accounts.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £
<b>6. Debtors</b>	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>7. Cash At Bank</b>					
<i>Leeds City Council</i>	1,629,740	-	-	1,629,740	1,562,819
	1,629,740	-	-	1,629,740	1,562,819
<b>8. Creditors Due within one year</b>					
<i>RSPB</i>	(150,355)	-	-	(150,355)	(234,296)
<i>Independent Examination Fees</i>	(2,340)	-	-	(2,340)	-
<i>Leeds City Council</i>	(380,814)	-	-	(380,814)	(135,433)
<i>John Gosden Consulting Ltd</i>	-	(893)	-	(893)	(5,097)
<i>Bird hide costs</i>	-	-	-	-	-
	(533,509)	(893)	-	(534,402)	(374,826)
<b>9. Creditors due after more than one year</b>					
<i>RSPB</i>	-	(35,000)	-	(35,000)	(35,000)
<i>Leeds City Council</i>	-	(4,354)	-	(4,354)	-
	-	(39,354)	-	(39,354)	(35,000)
<b>10. Provisions</b>					
<i>John Gosden Consulting Limited</i>	-	-	-	-	(5,246)
<b>11. General Funds</b>					
<i>Fund Balance at 1 April</i>	107,502	150,000	1,000,000	1,257,502	1,419,843
<i>Incoming resources</i>	66,921	-	-	66,921	66,858
<i>Outgoing resources</i>	(157,792)	-	-	(157,792)	(229,199)
<i>Fund Balance at 31 March</i>	16,631	150,000	1,000,000	1,166,631	1,257,502
<b>12. Earmarked reserve</b>					
<i>Fund Balance at 1 April</i>	-	40,246	-	40,246	47,338
<i>Incoming resources</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Outgoing resources</i>	-	(893)	-	(893)	(7,092)
<i>Fund Balance at 31 March</i>	-	39,353	-	39,353	40,246
<b>13. Related Party Transactions</b>					
Leeds City Council					
<i>Leeds City Council creditor</i>	380,814	-	-	380,814	135,433

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

Leeds City Council has resolved to provide administrative support to St. Aidan's Trust. The Trust's payments for goods and services are processed through the Council's financial systems and draw on the Council's bank account. St. Aidan's Trust reimburses Leeds City Council on an agreed, periodic basis.

The assets available as at 31 March 2025 are adequate to fulfil the obligations of St. Aidan's Trust as a going concern for the next twelve months.

**ST AIDAN'S TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1039113

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# Accounts

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# **ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**

## **ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 MARCH 2024**

**Victoria Bradshaw, FCCA, Treasurer**

**Charity Registration Number: 1039113**

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST  
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Trustee's Annual Report**

**Reference and Administrative Details**

Name of the charity:	St. Aidan's Trust
Charity registration number:	1039113
Address:	Civic Hall, LEEDS, LS1 1JF
Sole Trustee:	Leeds City Council
Represented by:	Cllr M Rafique (Executive Member for Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Spaces), Mrs Victoria Bradshaw (Interim Asst Chief Exec Finance, Traded and Resources) and Mr James Rogers (Director Communities & Environment), Leeds City Council.
Auditors and Solicitors:	Leeds City Council, Civic Hall, Leeds, LS1 1JF.
Bankers:	National Westminster

**Structure, Governance and Management**

**Governing Document**

St Aidan's Trust is constituted in accordance with its trust deed as an unincorporated association. St. Aidan's Trust was registered with the Charity Commission on 25 May 1994 (charity registration number 1039113).

**Trustees**

Leeds City Council as a corporate body is the sole trustee of St. Aidan's Trust for the purposes of the Trustee Act 1960 and the Local Government Act 1972.

**Staffing**

St. Aidan's Trust has no employees.

**Affiliations and related parties**

St. Aidan's Trust is not part of a wider network of affiliated charities or similar organisations. Its relationship to Leeds City Council and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds is disclosed throughout this document.

**Leeds City Council**

St. Aidan's Trust stems from a planning Section 106 agreement between Leeds City Council and the British Coal Corporation under which an endowment of £1,000,000 was being held in trust by the Council. A covenant of the agreement was the transfer of land to the Trust at nil cost. The land transfer was completed in December 2016. No value is attached to the land because of the restrictions on the land. In 2005 the Council's Executive Board, acting as the Trust, agreed that when the transfer takes place it will lease the land to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB). In March 2017 the Trust entered a 99-year lease at a peppercorn rent with the RSPB to manage the site in accordance with the objectives set out in the trust deed i.e. for the establishment, maintenance and promotion of ecological, recreational and educational works and facilities.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Trustee's Annual Report (continued)**

Leeds City Council currently provides the financial administration and other administrative services to the charity at no cost. The financial administration and governance policies and procedures of the charity are consistent with those of the Council.

**Friends of St. Aidan's BE1150 Dragline**

In April 1997 RJB Mining (UK) Limited offered the redundant 1150 Bucyrus Erie dragline sited at St. Aidan's Trust to Leeds City Council and waived the scrap value of £150,000. In view of the history of mining and open casting in the Lower Aire Valley, the Council decided to retain the dragline as a feature of public interest. St. Aidan's Trust was deemed to be the appropriate 'home' for the dragline, and it is through the charity that the grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund to meet initial movement and restoration costs were arranged. There is an active and dedicated 'Friends' organisation which carries out much of the dragline and cartilage maintenance work on behalf of St. Aidan's Trust.

**Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)**

The St. Aidan's site comprises circa 400 hectares of restored land, which was transferred from Harworth Estate Investment Limited (formerly named Coal Mining UK Limited) to St. Aidan's Trust in December 2016. In March 2017 the Trust leased the land to the RSPB at a peppercorn rent for a term of 99 years. Also, in March 2017 Leeds City Council and the RSPB entered into a grant fund agreement to manage the site, now a nature park, on behalf of Leeds City Council. RSPB submit claims annually and the eligible costs, for agriculture, nature conservation and recreation are funded from the Trust.

**Risk Statement**

Leeds City Council, as sole trustee, has examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces as part of its development plans, and confirms that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks. In 2024, Leeds City Council's Executive Board considered a report seeking the Council's in principle support for the RSPB's (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds) proposed funding bid to the National Heritage Lottery Fund (NHLF) for investment into St Aidan's and Fairburn Ings nature reserves as part of the 'Wild Aire' project. The report also seeks approval for the allocation of £805,000 from the St Aidan's Trust as match funding for the project if the bid is successful, with approval be given to negotiate and agree terms for the variation of the lease of St Aidan's to the RSPB, to help facilitate the successful delivery of the project. The fact that Leeds City Council continues to work closely with RSPB over the site, this risk assessment is still considered to remain relevant. St Aidan's Trust uses the systems of Leeds City Council for governance and financial administration purposes. Therefore, the Council's own internal controls apply to St Aidan's Trust on the same basis and to the same extent as they do to any other Council function or service.

**Objectives and Activities**

**Summary of objects as set out in the governing document**

The purpose of St. Aidan's Trust is to make the trust land available in the interests of social welfare for the public recreation and leisure time occupation for those living or working in or resorting to the South Leeds area.

**Explanation of the charity's aims including the changes or differences it seeks to make through its activities**

St. Aidan's Trust exists in order to restore the St. Aidan's opencast coal site at Swillington, Leeds, as a significant recreational and nature conservation resource in the Lower Aire Valley. To this end, reed beds and wetland habitats have already been created for nature conservation purposes. There are now several large lakes on site for accommodating flood water and paths and bridleways have been established.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Trustee's Annual Report (continued)**

The 1150 Bucyrus Erie dragline is retained as an industrial heritage symbol of the area's coal mining history.

**Explanation of the charity's main objectives for the year**

The main objectives were to facilitate the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds development plan and maintain the dragline exhibit, whilst ensuring that investment income from the endowment is maximised in accordance with Leeds City Council's own investment policies.

**Achievements and Performance**

The transfer of trust land from Harworth Estates to St Aidan's Trust and the subsequent lease of the land to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) were significant developments during 2016/17. The cost for the RSPB developmental work for the year ended 31 March 2024 was £234.3k (£124.4k in 2023). The RSPB business plan for 2018/19 to 2020/21 estimated circa £554k. There was only £75.6k was spent in 18/19, £74.2 in 19/20, £10.6k in 20/21 at that point there was still £393.6k left on the plan to be delivered. £11.6k was spent in 21/22, £124.4k in 2022/23 and £234.3k in 2023/24 leaving £23.3k remaining on the previous business plan. In 2024, Leeds City Council's Executive Board considered a report proposing investment into St Aidan's and Fairburn Ings nature reserves as part of the 'Wild Aire' project, seeking approval for the allocation of £805,000 from the St Aidan's Trust as match funding for the project if the bid is successful.

**Public Benefit**

Leeds City Council, as sole trustee, confirms that it has referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities for the year. The benefits of the charitable activities of St Aidan's Trust are primarily to a section of the public in accordance with the charitable objects of making the trust land available in the interests of social welfare for the public recreation and leisure time occupation for those living or working in or resorting to the South Leeds area. The geographical restriction is deemed reasonable given the location of the St. Aidan's site. The public rights of way across the site have been adopted and are maintained by Leeds City Council.

**Financial Review**

The net movement in funds for the year was a deficit of £169,433 (2023: deficit of £93,160). This is due to the grant claims to RSPB being less than previously assumed.

St. Aidan's Trust has fund balances of £1,297,748 at 31 March 2024 £1,467,181 at 31 March 2023). Within this, £190,246 is restricted, representing an earmarked reserve of £40,246 for a bird hide and panel engineer costs and £150,000 for the net value of the dragline. St. Aidan's Trust's unrestricted cash balances are £107,502. The Endowment Funds are the original £1,000,000 endowment.

The assets available as at 31 March 2024 are adequate to fulfil the obligations of St. Aidan's Trust for the next twelve months. The financial management policies in practice during the year are those used by Leeds City Council. Leeds City Council use a special interest bearing account (SIBA) which provides charities with instant access to their funds whilst earning the same rate of interest that the Council receives on its own cash balances. Subject to the expenditure requirements for St Aidan's Trust being established, £1,562,819 is deposited in the SIBA as at 31 March 2024.

**Appointment of Leeds City Council as Independent Examiner**

The Trustees approved the appointment of Leeds City Council as Independent Examiner for the 2023/24 accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Trustee's Annual Report (continued)**

**Events since the end of the year**

There is no significant event that is having a material effect on the financial statements. Rising interest rates may have a positive effect on interest received in the next financial year.

**Plans for Future Periods**

By working in partnership with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Leeds City Council as sole trustee plans to continue St. Aidan's Trust's operations of preserving the dragline as a piece of industrial heritage and further developing the former opencast site which is now a nature park stretching from Skelton Lake to Fairburn Ings. The furtherance of these objectives is evidenced by the signing of a 99-year lease of the site between the two organisations.

**Reserve Funds and Policy**

The Trust Fund was established in order to receive an endowment of £1,000,000 from British Coal in 1992/93. The purpose of the endowment is to fund the environmental restoration works which commenced upon the completion of coal mining at the St. Aidan's site. The charity's objective is to expend all its free reserves (these currently being £107,502 together with the £1 million endowment a total of £1,107,502) on the intended charitable purpose of managing and maintaining the St Aidan's site as a nature park. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds' (RSPB) business plan for 2018/19 to 2020/21 estimated circa £554k would have been required in order to fulfil their proposals in connection with the nature park. However, the RSPB had committed to seek to secure external funding of around £125k for new capital expenditure/projects. The plan has since expired, and a new business plan needs to be agreed. In 2024/25 a proposal for a business plan has been received by Leeds City Council Executive board for consideration. The other commitments for the reserves funds of the charity is the upkeep of the 1150B dragline, which was donated from RJB Mining. Maintain the Bird Hides and carry out site inspections which are currently provided by John Godsen Consulting Ltd.

**Investment policy**

The investment policy of the charity is that of Leeds City Council, which is to invest the charity's funds in secure, low risk deposits with reputable financial institutions. Whilst a new business plan is being drawn up, the funds of the charity were held in a high interest account in SIBA. A draw down proposal from the RSPB is expected from the proposed business plan in 2024/25. The trustees will also consider investing in low risk options with other reputable institutions not available to the public sector if a better rate of return can be achieved. Adopting a prudent, rather than speculative policy has meant that the charity's funds have been protected from decreases in monetary value as experienced by more speculative, stock market based investments. In the year ended 31 March 2024 income from bank deposits was £64,863. The interest on the matured £900k investment in the year ended 31 March 2023 was £3,701 and no further interest was due in the year to 31 March 2024.

**Organisation**

Leeds City Council is the sole trustee of St Aidan's Trust. This role was carried out by Cllr M Rafique Executive Member for Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Spaces, Mrs Victoria Bradshaw Interim Asst Chief Exec Finance, Traded and Resources and Mr James Rogers, Director of Communities and Environments, in accordance with the Council's regeneration strategies and consultation with relevant organisations and community groups. Appropriate consultative meetings with these groups and other Council services are held.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**STATEMENT OF THE TRUSTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE TRUSTEE'S REPORT AND THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Under the trust deed and rules of the charity and charity law, the trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustee's Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the excess of income over expenditure for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, generally accepted accounting practice entails that trustees:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- state whether the financial statements comply with the trust deed and rules, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are required to act in accordance with the trust deed and the rules of the charity, within the framework of trust law. They are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, sufficient to disclose at any time, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the charity at that time, and to enable the trustees to ensure that, where any statements of accounts are prepared by them under section 132 of the Charities Act 2011, those statements of accounts comply with the requirements of regulations under that provision. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

**Disclosure of information to auditors**

The trustee who held office at the date of approval of this trustee's report confirms that, so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditors are unaware; and the trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have taken as a trustee to make them aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Approved and signed on behalf of Leeds City Council, sole trustee



**VICTORIA BRADSHAW**

Chief Officer Financial Services

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Leeds City Council, Civic Hall, Leeds, LS1 1JF

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS**

<b>Report to the trustees/ members of</b>	St Aidan's Trust		
<b>For the year ended</b>	31 March 2024	<b>Charity no</b>	1039113
<b>Set out on pages</b>	9 to 13		

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner** The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:


- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's statement** My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement** In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met ; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Signed:**



**Date:**

12/12/2024

**Name:**

Alex Russell – ACMA - CGMA

**Relevant professional qualification(s) or body:**

CIMA - Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

**Address:**

Corporate Financial Management, Leeds City Council, Civic Hall Leeds

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
		2024 £	2024 £	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £
<b>INCOME</b>						
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Investments	3	64,863	-	-	64,863	31,203
<b>Total</b>		<b>64,863</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>64,863</b>	<b>31,203</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Charitable activities	4	(229,199)	(5,097)	-	(234,296)	(124,363)
<b>Total</b>		<b>(229,199)</b>	<b>(5,097)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(234,296)</b>	<b>(124,363)</b>
<i>Net Income / Expenditure before transfers</i>		(164,336)	(5,097)	-	(169,433)	(93,160)
<i>Transfer to earmarked reserve</i>		1,995	(1,995)		-	-
<i>Net Income / Expenditure after transfers</i>		(162,341)	(7,092)	-	(169,433)	(93,160)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(162,341)</b>	<b>(7,092)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(169,433)</b>	<b>(93,160)</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:</b>						
Total funds brought forward	11	269,843	197,338	1,000,000	1,467,181	1,560,341
<i>General Funds</i>	11	107,502	150,000	1,000,000	1,257,502	1,419,843
Earmarked Reserve	12	-	40,246	-	40,246	47,338
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>107,502</b>	<b>190,246</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>1,297,748</b>	<b>1,467,181</b>

The results are wholly derived from the continuing operations. The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 11 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024**

		<b>Notes</b>	2024	2023
			£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS:</b>				
Heritage Assets	5		150,000	150,000
<i>Total fixed assets</i>			150,000	150,000
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>				
Debtors	6		-	3,701
Cash at bank and in hand	7		1,562,819	1,494,255
<i>Total current assets</i>			1,562,819	1,497,956
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>				
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	8 & 13		(374,826)	(135,433)
<i>Total net current assets/(liabilities)</i>			1,187,993	1,362,523
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	9		(35,000)	(35,000)
Provisions for liabilities	10		(5,245)	(10,342)
<b>Total net assets</b>			1,297,748	1,467,181
<b>THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY</b>				
Endowment funds	11		1,000,000	1,000,000
Restricted income funds-dragline	11		150,000	150,000
Unrestricted income funds	11		107,502	269,843
Earmarked reserves	12		40,246	47,338
<b>Total charity funds</b>			1,297,748	1,467,181

These financial statements were approved and signed on behalf of the sole trustee by:

*V. f. Bradshaw*

**VICTORIA BRADSHAW**  
 Chief Officer Financial Services

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Leeds City Council, Civic Hall, Leeds, LS1 1JF

The Annual Report and Financial Statements are filed with the Charity Commission.

The notes on pages 11 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024**

**1. Accounting Policies**

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015) and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (October 2019). The particular accounting policies adopted by the Trustee are described below:

Fixed assets

No value is attached to the land as a result of the restrictions on the land.

The value of the 1150B walking dragline included in the accounts is the donor's estimate of the residual scrap value and therefore no provision for depreciation is considered necessary.

Income

Investment income from bank deposits is accounted for when receivable and includes the related tax recoverable.

Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis.

St Aidan's Trust incurs charitable expenditure funded from donations and other receipts. This activity is disclosed as restricted or unrestricted according to the circumstances of the income.

As sole trustee, Leeds City Council resolved to provide administrative support to St Aidan's Trust, for which no charge is made. The services provided are not quantified and therefore are not included in the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Governance costs

Governance costs are minimal on account of Leeds City Council acting as sole trustee. The independent examination is provided at nil cost.

Fund accounting

The Trust maintains three types of funds as follows:

- *Endowment funds*

The endowment fund consists of the original endowment of £1,000,000 resulting from a planning Section 106 agreement between Leeds City Council and the British Coal Corporation. The endowment is expendable rather than permanent.

- *Restricted funds/Earmarked reserves*

Restricted funds represent grants and donations received which are allocated by the grantor, provider and donor for specific purposes.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Notes (continued)**

- *General unrestricted funds*

General unrestricted funds represent investment income accrued from the endowment, which is expendable at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the objects of the Trust. Such funds may be held in order to finance both working capital and capital investment.

Taxation

St. Aidan's Trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable trust for UK income tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 10 Income Tax Act 2007 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

**2. Staff Costs & Trustee Remuneration**

St Aidan's Trust is administered by Leeds City Council and so is not required to employ staff. No emoluments or expenses were paid to Leeds City Council as sole trustee during the year.

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024**

\* notes 1 and 2 in body of accounts \*

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2024 £	2024 £	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £
<b>3. Investments and Other</b>					
SIBA and Monmouthshire Interest	64,863	-	-	64,863	31,203
Other income	-	-	-	-	-
	64,863	-	-	64,863	31,203
<b>4. Expenditure on: - Charitable Activities</b>					
<i>St Aidan's nature park</i>	(234,296)	-	-	(234,296)	(124,363)
<i>Dragline open day costs</i>	-	-	-	-	-
	(234,296)	-	-	(234,296)	(124,363)
<b>5. Heritage Assets</b>					
1150B Walking Dragline (Scrap Value)		150,000	-	150,000	150,000

The 1150 Bucyrus Erie dragline dates back to the 'lease-lend' arrangement between the British and US governments leading up to and including World War 2. It now serves as a monument to the legacy of mining and opencasting in the Lower Aire Valley and as a feature of public interest. The dragline is valued at scrap.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Endowment Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>6. Debtors</b>					
<i>Monmouthshire</i>	-	-	-	-	3,701
<i>Allerton Bywater Fishing club</i>	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	3,701
<b>7. Cash At Bank</b>					
Monmouthshire County Council	-			-	-
<i>Leeds City Council</i>	1,562,819	-	-	1,562,819	1,494,255
	1,562,819	-	-	1,562,819	1,494,255
<b>8. Creditors Due within one year</b>					
<i>RSPB</i>	(234,296)	-	-	(234,296)	(124,363)
<i>Friends of the Dragline</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Leeds City Council</i>	(135,433)	-	-	(135,433)	(7,850)
<i>John Gosden Consulting Ltd</i>	-	(5,097)	-	(5,097)	(3,220)
<i>Bird hide costs</i>	-	-	-	-	-
	(369,729)	(5,097)	-	(374,826)	(135,433)
<b>9. Creditors due after more than one year</b>					
<i>RSPB</i>	-	(35,000)		(35,000)	(35,000)
<b>10. Provisions for liabilities</b>					
<i>John Gosden Consulting Ltd</i>	-	(5,246)	-	(5,246)	(10,342)
	-	(40,246)	-	(40,246)	(45,342)
<b>11. General Funds</b>					
<i>Fund Balance at 1 April</i>	269,843	150,000	1,000,000	1,419,843	1,513,003
<i>Incoming resources</i>	66,858	-	-	66,858	31,203
<i>Outgoing resources</i>	(229,199)	-	-	(229,199)	(124,363)
<i>Fund Balance at 31 March</i>	107,502	150,000	1,000,000	1,257,502	1,419,843
<b>12. Earmarked reserve</b>					
<i>Fund Balance at 1 April</i>	-	47,338	-	47,338	47,338
<i>Incoming resources</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Outgoing resources</i>	-	(7,092)	-	(7,092)	-
<i>Fund Balance at 31 March</i>	-	40,246	-	40,246	47,338
<b>13. Related Party Transactions</b>					
Leeds City Council					
<i>Leeds City Council creditor</i>	135,433	-	-	135,433	7,850

Leeds City Council has resolved to provide administrative support to St. Aidan's Trust. The Trust's payments for goods and services are processed through the Council's financial systems and draw on the Council's bank account. St. Aidan's Trust reimburses Leeds City Council on an agreed, periodic basis.

**ST AIDAN'S TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1039113

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# Accounts

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# **ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**

## **ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 MARCH 2023**

**Victoria Bradshaw, FCCA, Treasurer**

**Charity Registration Number: 1039113**

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Trustee's Annual Report**

**Reference and Administrative Details**

Name of the charity:	St. Aidan's Trust
Charity registration number:	1039113
Address:	Civic Hall, LEEDS, LS1 1JF
Sole Trustee:	Leeds City Council
Represented by:	Cllr Arif, (Executive Member for Environments and Active Lifestyles), Mrs Victoria Bradshaw (Chief Officer Financial Services) and Mr James Rogers (Director Communities & Environment), Leeds City Council.
Auditors:	Leeds City Council, Civic Hall, Leeds, LS1 1JF.
Solicitors:	Leeds City Council, Civic Hall, Leeds, LS1 1JF.
Bankers:	National Westminster

**Structure, Governance and Management**

**Governing Document**

St Aidan's Trust is constituted in accordance with its trust deed as an unincorporated association. St. Aidan's Trust was registered with the Charity Commission on 25 May 1994 (charity registration number 1039113).

**Trustees**

Leeds City Council as a corporate body is the sole trustee of St. Aidan's Trust for the purposes of the Trustee Act 1960 and the Local Government Act 1972.

**Staffing**

St. Aidan's Trust has no employees.

**Affiliations and related parties**

St. Aidan's Trust is not part of a wider network of affiliated charities or similar organisations. Its relationship to Leeds City Council and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds is disclosed throughout this document.

**Leeds City Council**

St. Aidan's Trust stems from a planning Section 106 agreement between Leeds City Council and the British Coal Corporation under which an endowment of £1,000,000 was being held in trust by the Council. A covenant of the agreement was the transfer of land to the Trust at nil cost. The land transfer was completed in December 2016. No value is attached to the land as a result of the restrictions on the land. In 2005 the Council's Executive Board, acting as the Trust, agreed that when the transfer takes place it will lease the land to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB). In March 2017 the Trust entered into a 99 year lease at a peppercorn rent with the RSPB to manage the site in accordance with the objectives set out in the trust deed i.e. for the establishment, maintenance and promotion of ecological, recreational and educational works and facilities.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Trustee's Annual Report (continued)**

Leeds City Council provides the financial administration and other administrative services to the charity at no cost. The financial administration and governance policies and procedures of the charity are consistent with those of the Council.

**Friends of St. Aidan's BE1150 Dragline**

In April 1997 RJB Mining (UK) Limited offered the redundant 1150 Bucyrus Erie dragline sited at St. Aidan's Trust to Leeds City Council and waived the scrap value of £150,000. In view of the history of mining and open casting in the Lower Aire Valley, the Council decided to retain the dragline as a feature of public interest. St. Aidan's Trust was deemed to be the appropriate 'home' for the dragline and it is through the charity that the grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund to meet initial movement and restoration costs were arranged. There is an active and dedicated 'Friends' organisation which carries out much of the dragline and cartilage maintenance work on behalf of St. Aidan's Trust.

**Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)**

The St. Aidan's site comprises circa 400 hectares of restored land, which was transferred from Harworth Estate Investment Limited (formerly named Coal Mining UK Limited) to St. Aidan's Trust in December 2016. In March 2017 the Trust leased the land to the RSPB at a peppercorn rent for a term of 99 years. Also in March 2017 Leeds City Council and the RSPB entered into a grant fund agreement to manage the site, now a nature park, on behalf of Leeds City Council. RSPB submit claims annually and the eligible costs, for agriculture, nature conservation and recreation are funded from the Trust.

**Risk Statement**

Leeds City Council, as sole trustee, has examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces as part of its development plans, and confirms that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks. In 2005, Leeds City Council's Executive Board considered the current position and future intentions for St Aidan's Trust, and established that the nature park scheme was not technically difficult to deliver, but the main risk was that the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds was the only suitable body to work with on this project but that the risk of the partnership not working is small. Given the future intentions of the Trust have not changed, the low level of activity in recent years, and the fact that Leeds City Council continues to work closely with RSPB over the site, this risk assessment is still considered to remain relevant. St Aidan's Trust uses the systems of Leeds City Council for governance and financial administration purposes. Therefore, the Council's own internal controls apply to St Aidan's Trust on the same basis and to the same extent as they do to any other Council function or service.

**Objectives and Activities**

**Summary of objects as set out in the governing document**

The purpose of St. Aidan's Trust is to make the trust land available in the interests of social welfare for the public recreation and leisure time occupation for those living or working in, or resorting to the South Leeds area.

**Explanation of the charity's aims including the changes or differences it seeks to make through its activities**

St. Aidan's Trust exists in order to restore the St. Aidan's opencast coal site at Swillington, Leeds, as a significant recreational and nature conservation resource in the Lower Aire Valley. To this end, reed beds and wetland habitats have already been created for nature conservation purposes. There are now several large lakes on site for accommodating flood water and paths and bridleways have been established.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Trustee's Annual Report (continued)**

The 1150 Bucyrus Erie dragline is retained as an industrial heritage symbol of the area's coal mining history.

**Explanation of the charity's main objectives for the year**

The main objectives were to facilitate the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds development plan and maintain the dragline exhibit, whilst ensuring that investment income from the endowment is maximised in accordance with Leeds City Council's own investment policies.

**Achievements and Performance**

The transfer of trust land from Harworth Estates to St Aidan's Trust and the subsequent lease of the land to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) were significant developments during 2016/17. The cost for the RSPB developmental work for the year ended 31 March 2023 was £124.4k (£11.6k in 2022). The RSPB business plan for 2018/19 to 2020/21 estimated circa £554k. There was only £75.6k was spent in 18/19, £74.2 in 19/20, £10.6k in 20/21 at that point there was still £493.8k left on the plan. There will need to be a new business plan drawn up with the RSPB from 2021/22 onwards as the previous one expired in 2020/21. £11.6k has been spent in 21/22 against no plan, along with £124.4k in 2022/23, leaving £357.8k remaining on the previous business plan.

**Public Benefit**

Leeds City Council, as sole trustee, confirms that it has referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities for the year. The benefits of the charitable activities of St Aidan's Trust are primarily to a section of the public in accordance with the charitable objects of making the trust land available in the interests of social welfare for the public recreation and leisure time occupation for those living or working in or resorting to the South Leeds area. The geographical restriction is deemed reasonable given the location of the St. Aidan's site. The public rights of way across the site have been adopted and are maintained by Leeds City Council.

**Financial Review**

The net movement in funds for the year was a deficit of £93,160 (2022: deficit of £2,570). This is due to the grant claims to RSPB being less than previously assumed.

St. Aidan's Trust has fund balances of £1,467,181 at 31 March 2022 £1,560,341 at 31 March 2022). Within this, £197,338 is restricted, representing an earmarked reserve of £47,338 for a bird hide and panel engineer costs and £150,000 for the net value of the dragline. St. Aidan's Trust's unrestricted cash balances are £269,843. The Endowment Funds are the original £1,000,000 endowment.

The assets available as at 31 March 2023 are adequate to fulfil the obligations of St. Aidan's Trust for the next twelve months.

The financial management policies in practice during the year are those used by Leeds City Council. Leeds City Council use a special interest bearing account (SIBA) which provides charities with instant access to their funds whilst earning the same rate of interest that the Council receives on its own cash balances. Subject to the expenditure requirements for St Aidan's Trust being established, £1,494,255 is deposited in the SIBA as at 31 March 2023.

**Appointment of Leeds City Council as Independent Examiner**

The Trustees approved the appointment of Leeds City Council as Independent Examiner for the 2022/23 accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Trustee's Annual Report (continued)**

**Events since the end of the year**

There is no significant event that is having a material effect on the financial statements. Rising interest rates may have a positive effect on interest received in the next financial year.

**Plans for Future Periods**

By working in partnership with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Leeds City Council as sole trustee plans to continue St. Aidan's Trust's operations of preserving the dragline as a piece of industrial heritage and further developing the former opencast site which is now a nature park stretching from Skelton Lake to Fairburn Ings. The furtherance of these objectives is evidenced by the signing of a 99 year lease of the site between the two organisations.

**Reserve Funds and Policy**

The Trust Fund was established in order to receive an endowment of £1,000,000 from British Coal in 1992/93. The purpose of the endowment is to fund the environmental restoration works which commenced upon the completion of coal mining at the St. Aidan's site. The charity's objective is to expend all its free reserves (these currently being £269,843 together with the £1 million endowment a total of £1,269,843) on the intended charitable purpose of managing and maintaining the St Aidan's site as a nature park. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds' (RSPB) business plan for 2018/19 to 2020/21 estimated circa £554k would have been required in order to fulfil their proposals in connection with the nature park. However, the RSPB had committed to seek to secure external funding of around £125k for new capital expenditure/projects. The plan has since expired and a new business plan needs to be agreed. The only other commitment for the reserves funds of the charity is the upkeep of the 1150B dragline, which was donated from RJB Mining.

**Investment policy**

The investment policy of the charity is that of Leeds City Council, which is to invest the charity's funds in secure, low risk deposits with reputable financial institutions. This has included the investment of £900k in a local authority investment until 31 March 2022. The trustees will also consider investing in low risk options with other reputable institutions not available to the public sector if a better rate of return can be achieved. Adopting a prudent, rather than speculative policy has meant that the charity's funds have been protected from decreases in monetary value as experienced by more speculative, stock market based investments. In the year ended 31 March 2023 income from bank deposits was £27,502. The interest on the matured £900k investment in the year ended 31 March 2023 was £3,701.

**Organisation**

Leeds City Council is the sole trustee of St Aidan's Trust. This role was carried out by Cllr Arif Executive Member for Environments and Active Lifestyles, Mrs Victoria Bradshaw, Chief Officer Financial Services and Mr James Rogers, Director of Communities and Environments, in accordance with the Council's regeneration strategies and consultation with relevant organisations and community groups. Appropriate consultative meetings with these groups and other Council services are held.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**STATEMENT OF THE TRUSTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE TRUSTEE'S REPORT AND THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Under the trust deed and rules of the charity and charity law, the trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustee's Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the excess of income over expenditure for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, generally accepted accounting practice entails that trustees:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- state whether the financial statements comply with the trust deed and rules, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are required to act in accordance with the trust deed and the rules of the charity, within the framework of trust law. They are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, sufficient to disclose at any time, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the charity at that time, and to enable the trustees to ensure that, where any statements of accounts are prepared by them under section 132 of the Charities Act 2011, those statements of accounts comply with the requirements of regulations under that provision. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

**Disclosure of information to auditors**

The trustee who held office at the date of approval of this trustee's report confirms that, so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditors are unaware; and the trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have taken as a trustee to make them aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Approved and signed on behalf of Leeds City Council, sole trustee

*V. f. Bradshaw*

Victoria Bradshaw, Chief Officer Financial Services,  
Leeds City Council Civic Hall Leeds LS1 1JF

Date: 20/12/2023

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

St Aidan's Trust

**For the year ended**

31 March 2023

**Charity no**

1039113

**Set out on pages**

9 to 13

**Respective responsibilities  
of trustees and examiner**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent  
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's  
statement**

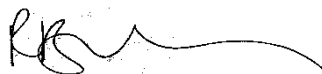
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met ; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Signed:**



**Date:**

14/12/2023

**Name:**

Rosie Boyles CPFA

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body:**

CIPFA - Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy

**Address:**

Corporate Financial Management, Leeds City Council, Civic Hall Leeds

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
		2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £
<b>INCOME</b>						
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Investments	3	31,203	-	-	31,203	8,980
<b>Total</b>		<b>31,203</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,203</b>	<b>8,980</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Charitable activities	4	(124,363)	-	-	(124,363)	(11,550)
<b>Total</b>		<b>(124,363)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(124,363)</b>	<b>(11,550)</b>
<i>Net Income / Expenditure before transfers</i>		(93,160)	-	-	(93,160)	(2,570)
<i>Transfer to earmarked reserve</i>					-	-
<i>Net Income / Expenditure after transfers</i>		(93,160)	-	-	(93,160)	(2,570)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(93,160)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(93,160)</b>	<b>(2,570)</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:</b>						
Total funds brought forward	11	363,003	197,338	1,000,000	1,560,341	1,562,911
<i>General Funds</i>	11	269,843	150,000	1,000,000	1,419,843	1,513,003
<i>Earmarked Reserve</i>	12	-	47,338	-	47,338	47,338
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>269,843</b>	<b>197,338</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>1,467,181</b>	<b>1,560,341</b>

The results are wholly derived from the continuing operations. The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 11 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023**

	<b>Notes</b>	2023	2022
		£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS:</b>			
Heritage Assets	5	150,000	150,000
<i>Total fixed assets</i>		<u>150,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>			
Debtors	6	3,701	3,701
Cash at bank and in hand	7	1,494,255	1,560,225
<i>Total current assets</i>		<u>1,497,956</u>	<u>1,563,926</u>
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	8 & 13	(135,433)	(106,247)
<i>Total net current assets/(liabilities)</i>		<u>1,362,523</u>	<u>1,457,679</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	9	(35,000)	(35,000)
Provisions for liabilities	10	(10,342)	(12,338)
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u><u>1,467,181</u></u>	<u><u>1,560,341</u></u>
<b>THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY</b>			
Endowment funds	11	1,000,000	1,000,000
Restricted income funds-dragline	11	150,000	150,000
Unrestricted income funds	11	269,843	363,003
Earmarked reserves	12	47,338	47,338
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<u><u>1,467,181</u></u>	<u><u>1,560,341</u></u>

These financial statements were approved and signed on behalf of the sole trustee by:

*V. f. Bradshaw*

Victoria Bradshaw, Chief Officer Financial Services,  
 Leeds City Council Civic Hall  
 Leeds LS1 1JF

Date: 20/12/2023

The Annual Report and Financial Statements are filed with the Charity Commission.

The notes on pages 11 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023**

**1. Accounting Policies**

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015) and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (October 2019). The particular accounting policies adopted by the Trustee are described below:

Fixed assets

No value is attached to the land as a result of the restrictions on the land.

The value of the 1150B walking dragline included in the accounts is the donor's estimate of the residual scrap value and therefore no provision for depreciation is considered necessary.

Income

Investment income from bank deposits is accounted for when receivable and includes the related tax recoverable.

Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis.

St Aidan's Trust incurs charitable expenditure funded from donations and other receipts. This activity is disclosed as restricted or unrestricted according to the circumstances of the income.

As sole trustee, Leeds City Council resolved to provide administrative support to St Aidan's Trust, for which no charge is made. The services provided are not quantified and therefore are not included in the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Governance costs

Governance costs are minimal on account of Leeds City Council acting as sole trustee. The independent examination is provided at nil cost.

Fund accounting

The Trust maintains three types of funds as follows:

- *Endowment funds*

The endowment fund consists of the original endowment of £1,000,000 resulting from a planning Section 106 agreement between Leeds City Council and the British Coal Corporation. The endowment is expendable rather than permanent.

- *Restricted funds/Earmarked reserves*

Restricted funds represent grants and donations received which are allocated by the grantor, provider and donor for specific purposes.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**Notes (continued)**

- *General unrestricted funds*

General unrestricted funds represent investment income accrued from the endowment, which is expendable at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the objects of the Trust. Such funds may be held in order to finance both working capital and capital investment.

Taxation

St. Aidan's Trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable trust for UK income tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 10 Income Tax Act 2007 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

**2. Staff Costs & Trustee Remuneration**

St Aidan's Trust is administered by Leeds City Council and so is not required to employ staff. No emoluments or expenses were paid to Leeds City Council as sole trustee during the year.

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023**

\* notes 1 and 2 in body of accounts \*

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>3. Investments and Other</b>					
SIBA and Monmouthshire Interest	31,203	-	-	31,203	8,980
Other income	-	-	-	-	-
	31,203	-	-	31,203	8,980
<b>4. Expenditure on: - Charitable Activities</b>					
<i>St Aidan's nature park</i>	(124,363)	-	-	(124,363)	(11,550)
<i>Dragline open day costs</i>	-	-	-	-	-
	(124,363)	-	-	(124,363)	(11,550)
<b>5. Heritage Assets</b>					
<i>1150B Walking Dragline (Scrap Value)</i>	-	150,000	-	150,000	150,000

The 1150 Bucyrus Erie dragline dates back to the 'lease-lend' arrangement between the British and US governments leading up to and including World War 2. It now serves as a monument to the legacy of mining and opencasting in the Lower Aire Valley and as a feature of public interest. The dragline is valued at scrap.

**ST. AIDAN'S TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Endowment Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>6. Debtors</b>					
<i>Monmouthshire</i>	3,701	-	-	3,701	3,701
<i>Allerton Bywater Fishing club</i>	-	-	-	-	-
	3,701	-	-	3,701	3,701
<b>7. Cash At Bank</b>					
Monmouthshire County Council	-			-	-
<i>Leeds City Council</i>	1,494,255	-	-	1,494,255	1,560,225
	1,494,255	-	-	1,494,255	1,560,225
<b>8. Creditors Due within one year</b>					
<i>RSPB</i>	(124,363)	-	-	(124,363)	(11,550)
<i>Friends of the Dragline</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Leeds City Council</i>	(7,850)	-	-	(7,850)	(93,472)
<i>John Gosden Consulting Ltd</i>	-	(3,220)	-	(3,220)	(1,225)
<i>Bird hide costs</i>	-	-	-	-	-
	(132,213)	(3,220)	-	(135,433)	(106,247)
<b>9. Creditors due after more than one year</b>					
<i>RSPB</i>	-	(35,000)		(35,000)	(35,000)
<b>10. Provisions for liabilities</b>					
<i>John Gosden Consulting Ltd</i>	-	(10,342)	-	(10,342)	(12,338)
	-	(45,342)	-	(45,342)	(47,338)
<b>11. General Funds</b>					
<i>Fund Balance at 1 April</i>	363,003	150,000	1,000,000	1,513,003	1,515,573
<i>Incoming resources</i>	31,203	-	-	31,203	8,980
<i>Outgoing resources</i>	(124,363)	-	-	(124,363)	(11,550)
<i>Fund Balance at 31 March</i>	269,843	150,000	1,000,000	1,419,843	1,513,003
<b>12. Earmarked reserve</b>					
<i>Fund Balance at 1 April</i>	-	47,338	-	47,338	47,338
<i>Incoming resources</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Outgoing resources</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Fund Balance at 31 March</i>	-	47,338	-	47,338	47,338
<b>13. Related Party Transactions</b>					
Leeds City Council					
<i>Leeds City Council creditor</i>	7,850	-	-	7,850	93,472

Leeds City Council has resolved to provide administrative support to St. Aidan's Trust. The Trust's payments for goods and services are processed through the Council's financial systems and draw on the Council's bank account. St. Aidan's Trust reimburses Leeds City Council on an agreed, periodic basis.