



St Vincent  
de Paul Society

England and Wales

Turning Concern into Action

# Keeping the Doors of Hope Open



## TRUSTEES REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2025

Company No: 3174679 Charity No: 1053992

# MISSION, VISION & VALUES



St Vincent  
de Paul Society

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Since the Charity's foundation in 1833 in Paris, the St Vincent de Paul Society has lived by the Christian principles of its founder Blessed Frédéric Ozanam, who said we should, "embrace the whole world in a network of charity."

In 1833 the work of the Charity was prompted by the abject poverty in the slums of Paris. The first SVP members reached out in person to help those in need. The first SVP Conference in England and Wales was established only eleven years later, in 1844. Sadly, though the world has changed in so many ways, poverty remains embedded across society. Today our members continue to reach out to those in need with kindness, compassion and a welcome that is non-judgmental. As a 19-year-old university student, Blessed Frédéric Ozanam had the vision to create that network of Charity. If he attended an SVP Conference meeting today, visited a St Vincent's shop, support centre or any other of our many projects, he would recognise the same ethos of Vincentian service and welcoming acceptance of others. The doors of hope are always open.

Today, the SVP numbers around 800,000 voluntary members in some 153 countries, with over 8,900 members in England and Wales. The work of the Society continues to evolve in response to present needs, while remaining person-centred, ensuring everyone has the right to be a valued member of the community in which they live.

## OUR VISION

Our vision, inspired by Christ's message to love our neighbour as ourselves, is to give hope and restore the dignity of individuals and families, empowering them to live more fulfilling lives in a fairer world.

## OUR MISSION

Our mission is to seek and find those in need, to help them in a spirit of justice, and to tackle the causes of poverty where we can.

## OUR VALUES

**Christ-centred** - We acknowledge the presence of Christ everywhere.

**Compassionate** - We aim to show compassion that is non-judgmental towards those with whom we work.

**Respectful** - We respect the dignity of all in the knowledge that we are all equal before God.

**Generous** - We aim to be generous with our time, our possessions and ourselves in the service of others.

**Responsive** - We aim to be alert to the ever-changing needs of the communities in which we work, and to respond accordingly, in order to alleviate poverty in all its forms.

**Accountable** - We recognise our accountability to God and to those we seek to help, while acting within the limits of our own knowledge and skills.

**Confidential** - We respect the confidentiality of those we help, while recognising that the physical and mental well-being of any vulnerable party must always be paramount.

# WE CONTINUE TO KEEP THE DOORS OF HOPE OPEN

2024–25 was a significant year of change at the SVP, while at the same time many of the economic and social challenges the charity works to address, persisted – and in many cases, intensified. After 24 years leading the Society, we said goodbye to Elizabeth Palmer who decided to leave the role of CEO in November. During her time with us, Elizabeth worked tirelessly to help the Society deliver its mission and ensure it had an impactful presence in communities where people were in most need of help and support. We wish her every success in her next endeavours. Kate Nightingale, who had already been with the SVP for 13 years in a variety of roles – including deputy CEO – was appointed as the new CEO. We wish Kate every success as she leads us over the coming years in tackling those persisting challenges. The cost-of-living crisis shows no signs of abating. Many families and individuals are finding it tough to afford essentials. The plight of immigrants and asylum seekers continues to be framed through one lens, with much of the human story of hardship and suffering stripped away, along with any consideration of their right to human dignity. In such times the work of the SVP comes to the fore. Our members, volunteers, and staff, particularly in our 11 community support projects, offer hope. Our doors are always open.

Against this backdrop, the whole of the charity sector is under real strain. The SVP is not immune. Our costs have risen across all areas of our work whilst demand for our services remains at an historic high. This year we carried out a restructure of our central functions to maintain the long term viability of the SVP. We've taken other steps to strengthen our organisation for the future—seeking new partnerships, diversifying our funding base, and investing in the support structures that sustain our members and services. We have been working across England and Wales for 181 years and will ensure we remain at the forefront of the battle against poverty, social inequalities, injustice, and hardship, for many more years to come.

Our 8,900 members, supported by a dedicated network of staff and volunteers are the bedrock of the hope we offer—visiting individuals and families, offering not just assistance but companionship, and helping people regain stability and hope.

Just as requests for support remain at record levels, so too does our commitment. In 2024–25, we expanded our Cost-of-Living Fund, delivering vital grants to those facing financial crisis. Whether for food, energy, clothing, transport, or household items, each grant is a small act of hope in someone's darkest moment.

***“Charity is the cement which binds communities to God and persons to one another.”***

St Vincent de Paul

Our housing work also took significant steps forward. Following the creation of our Emergency Housing Strategy and appointment of our first Head of Housing, we began to lay the foundations for new, affordable accommodation initiatives. This is a long term commitment to tackling one of the root causes of poverty: lack of secure housing. At a national level, we've continued to advocate for those we support. Through evidence-based research and the voices of our members and service users, we've spoken out on the injustices behind the statistics. Our work on housing, regional inequality, and migration reflects our belief that charity must be accompanied by a call for change.

Through every challenge, our mission remains unchanged: to offer person-to-person care with compassion and dignity, grounded in our Christian values and open to all without judgement. None of this would be possible without the extraordinary dedication of our members, volunteers, and staff—and the generous support of individuals, trusts, parishes, and organisations who share our vision.

As we look to the future, we do so with gratitude, courage, and hope. Together, we remain committed to building a more compassionate and just society, one act of service at a time and by keeping the doors of hope open.

Thank you for walking with us.



**Elaine Heyworth,  
Chair of Trustees**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elaine Heyworth'.



**Kate Nightingale,  
CEO**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate Nightingale'.

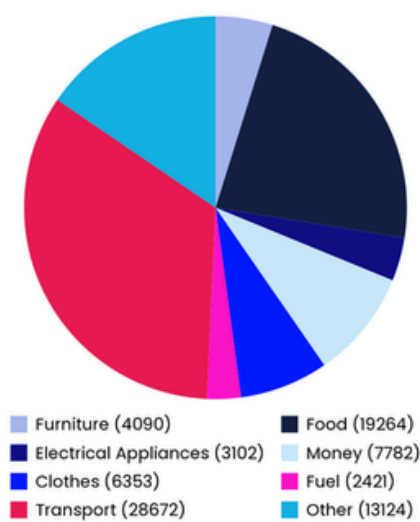
# A YEAR OF OPENING DOORS, OFFERING HOPE

In 2024-25 there were 855 SVP Conferences in England and Wales with over 8,900 active volunteer members. These Conferences continued to reach out proactively to those in need within their communities. The nature of support provided was shaped by local needs, circumstances and resources.

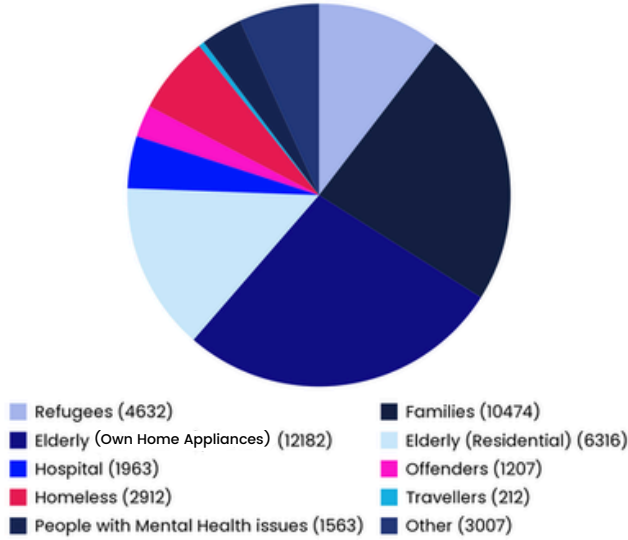


Our volunteer members’ core focus is on visiting those facing loneliness or hardship – offering support and friendship for as long as needed. Last year in England and Wales, over 336,000 visits were made to more than 44,000 people, with over 84,000 instances of practical help provided, mainly food and transport. Soup runs also supported over 12,000 people.

Types of practical assistance given:



Types of beneficiaries:



## SVP Canvey Island Food Hub

The SVP Canvey Island Food Hub is a vital support system for families across Canvey and the wider Castle Point Borough in Essex. Operating six days a week, the Hub redistributes free of charge over 300 trays of surplus food from 11 supermarkets, ensuring good food doesn’t go to waste, and those in need don’t go without.

Each morning, two vans set out at 7am and return by 9am with food supplies, which are then sorted and delivered by 10am. Every week, the Hub supports 3 food banks, 6 schools, 3 children’s homes, 2 care homes, the Canvey Island Senior Citizens Association, and more.

Fridays are dedicated to supporting around 80 elderly or housebound people. On Saturdays, surplus food is shared with St Vincent’s Southend. In the past year, over 51,000 food parcels and 5,500 doorstep deliveries were made.

The Hub also assists families in crisis by supplying essential household items, such as microwaves, cookers, and beds. Help with utility bills is also offered. At Christmas, a three-course meal was served for 95 parishioners and the community was supported with over 9 tonnes of food.

It is hoped Canvey Island Food Hub will launch a twice-weekly community café and offer cookery classes for parents to promote healthy, affordable meals.

The annual running cost of Canvey Island is £48,000. This covers van insurance, diesel, repairs, food top-ups, and direct beneficiary support. Despite the challenges, the reward is in the faces of those helped. The Mayor of Castle Point recognised the contribution of the Hub with a Community Award, celebrating the passion of the 35 volunteers. With continued support, the aim is to grow into a full Special Works, then progress to a Community Service Project, opening even more doors to hope.



## St Blaise & St Mary's Conferences

Members received a request to support a couple who had recently moved into the area after several months of homelessness. They were placed in an unfurnished flat by the local housing association. The wife, an amputee with a mental health condition, had a specialised bed. Her husband, unable to work due to ADHD and acting as her full-time carer, was sleeping on the floor.

Within days of the request, the Conference provided essential furniture and emergency food parcels. They discovered the wife was distressed and housebound; her prosthetic leg was no longer suitable as she had lost so much weight from stress and lack of food. Her husband was also isolated, unable to leave her side.

Recognising the need for longer-term and emotional support, SVP members partnered with St Mary (SS Peter & Columba) Bradford Conference to offer regular befriending visits. Together, they created a visiting schedule and were able to signpost the couple to local services to enable them to start to rebuild their lives.

Thanks to this collaborative effort, the couple now live in a fully furnished flat and receive the ongoing support they so desperately needed.



## St James', Twickenham

St James' SVP conference, based in Twickenham, started one year ago.

Their first fundraising events were Lenten lunches, held every Wednesday during Lent. Homemade soups, tea, coffee and cakes were enjoyed by parishioners and the local community. They were attended by sixth formers from St Catherine's School and residents from Brinsworth House, a care home for retired artists and those who have spent their lives working in the entertainment industry.

In total, some 160 lunches were served, and £980 was raised for the Conference.

The event was a real testament to the team's dedication and community spirit. The hard work done in preparation by the Lenten Lunch team shone through.



# A DOORWAY THROUGH GRIEF, A PATH TO HOPE

The SVP supports 'Special Works' of charity. These offer focused support, offering either a particular type of help or supporting a defined group. They may arise in response to an identified local need which corresponds to criteria approved by the Trustees. Special Works usually develop when an activity grows to an extent where a Conference is taken away from delivering its usual core day to day services. Special Works are an integral part of the support provided by the Society to those in need.

One of the newest developing Special Works is the expansion of Bereavement Cafés in the Worcestershire area. They currently offer a light touch, social event for bereaved people and those who would benefit from meeting and chatting with others in a similar position, with support from volunteers. It is suitable for people at any stage of bereavement, but as Gina, one of the founding members in Droitwich explains, 'it is not bereavement counselling. The Café is a safe place for people to meet others going through a bereavement, to get or give support and meet trained volunteers willing to listen. The Cafés offer support, rather than a counselling service.'

Tea and coffee and refreshments are always on hand. They are open and accessible for all; at no cost, with easy access and away from a church or church hall, so as not to alienate people of a specific faith or no faith at all.



All volunteers at the Cafés have taken part in training to learn how to support bereaved people and the stories they have shared are truly inspiring. The Members and volunteers also run a 7-week Bereavement Journey course, originally set up by the Church of England over 25 years ago. As Gina outlines, "Our guests really like the opportunity to get to know the volunteers before they commit to the course. They then have the continuity of coming to the café at the end of the course. We make the café look welcoming with fresh flowers on the tables, free drinks and biscuits. And most of all, with volunteers who are supportive". These added touches really help make guests feel relaxed in comfortable surroundings.

The course is offered usually around 6 months after the bereavement has occurred. But it's not compulsory. Some people find just coming to the café is enough, whilst others need that extra help. Guests do not even have to talk to anyone if they don't want to – several guests have come to the course and not spoken for the first few weeks. Then it all comes spilling out. There is no pressure put on anyone at any time. It's made clear from the outset.

**"Thank you again, from the bottom of my heart"**

One man, who lost his wife, has a daughter who lives in France. She wrote to say thank you for the support given to her father. He has since made new friends. It gave his daughter comfort to know that he was among people who cared and supported him.



"My name is S\*, I live in France. My dad, who lives near Droitwich, lost his wife last May to cancer. I ring him every day but living in another country, I feel bad that I cannot visit him in person more. He started attending your group this year. I cannot begin to express how much comfort it has brought him. He has met many new friends through your group and he is now on the bereavement course you offer. Many times, your group has picked him up when he felt down. I want to offer huge thanks to all your team for providing this kind and much needed service. Thanks again from the bottom of my heart."

\*Name changed to protect privacy.








**235 visits took place at Evesham & Droitwich Cafés**



**73 different people visited both Cafés**



**24 people completed the Bereavement Journey course**



**“This is a different approach to a difficult subject”**



“I get huge satisfaction from seeing the improvement in people visiting the Café and attending the Bereavement Journey Course. It’s not an easy subject. Personally I’ve been out of my comfort zone many times but it is all worthwhile when you see guests with a smile on their face and managing to move forward in their lives. We’re not counsellors and would never pretend to be. But we can facilitate and make a safe place for bereaved people to come and share their experiences. The local GP practices in Droitwich and Evesham are referring people. We’re supported by the local funeral directors in Droitwich. They hand out flyers to families whom they feel would benefit from coming to the Café. This is a different approach to a difficult subject. It’s not for everyone, but for those who are comfortable with this approach it has changed their lives. It is an alternative to one-to-one counselling or medication, both of which have their place for some people. It is a classic SVP project – satisfying a need that is never going to go away.”



# OPENING DOORS OF HOPE TO THOSE SEEKING SAFETY



Many SVP members befriend and support asylum seekers and refugees. The support required may vary: befriending, emotional support, material support or indeed, all three. In 2024-25 SVP members supported 4,632 refugees – 10.4% of the total people helped by the SVP in the year.

Our St Vincent's Support Centres remain ideally placed in communities for us to welcome asylum seekers and refugees into England and Wales. Below are some stories from our front-line centres.

## Supporting a family through the asylum journey

This year St Vincent's Chorley Buddies walked alongside a family, from their first steps in the asylum process to settling into a new home.

The family initially came to the centre for help with food and travel passes so their children could get to school. The centre supported them in completing their asylum application. Once their status was granted, the centre helped with housing paperwork and applications for furniture through the Under One Roof and Cash for Kids schemes.

On moving day, volunteers transported their belongings to their new home. Today, the father works part-time and gives back by volunteering at the centre each week. The family remains connected to the community, joining summer outings and school holiday activities. In his words:



"We pray for Chorley Buddies every evening... looking back 1 year, the difference in our lives is huge."



**35+ furniture deliveries were made to asylum seekers & refugees in Sheffield**

**Migrant support and immigration advice service supported 1,422 people in Leeds**

**195 students attended ESOL classes in Bradford**





## Finding safety & building a new life

Sara, now a valued volunteer at St Vincent's Newcastle, came to the UK after living through the unrest in Khartoum. Food and essentials were scarce, prices were rising sharply, and expressing opinions was dangerous. She witnessed the Khartoum massacre and lived under constant threat. Her children would hide under furniture as bombs drew closer.

A friend of her husband arranged for Sara to reach safety in the UK, but the journey meant leaving behind her three children (who would follow later), husband and mother. After arriving in Heathrow, she was moved from London to Leeds, and then to a hotel in Newcastle, enduring three years of painful separation before being reunited with family.

"Mum, this is safe – no bombs here," her son told her the day after they arrived.

Now reunited, Sara's sons are thriving, with St Vincent's arranging for them to attend a football training camp over the summer. Yet, Sara still worries for her mother in Sudan, who has diabetes and has faced severe health risks due to expired insulin and an overstretched healthcare system.

Sara's courage, resilience and generosity in volunteering with St Vincent's Newcastle embody the heart of our mission – to serve those in need with love, hope, and solidarity.

## A day of connection and well-being

St Vincent's Leeds organised a day trip for nine asylum seekers from a local hotel, offering a rare escape to the peaceful Denton estate. For many, it was their first opportunity to enjoy the outdoors, connect with nature, and take part in meaningful activities. Participants joined estate gardening work, harvesting vegetables for local use, contributing to conservation efforts and sharing their skills to make a tangible difference in the local community.

The journey began quietly, with some feeling nervous or unsure. To ease the mood, staff led light-hearted and educational games involving spelling, phrases, numbers and object identification. These activities not only broke the ice but also built confidence in English vocabulary ahead of the day's events.

ITV News accompanied the group, capturing personal stories, reflections on life in the UK, and hopes for the future. One participant shared the reasons he sought asylum, why he cannot return home, and details of a book he has written about his journey. The TV piece brought wider attention to the challenges asylum seekers face and the supportive role St Vincent's centres play.

The day was filled with shared meals in the sunshine, nature trails in search of deer and piglets, and the forging of new friendships. It was especially life-changing for one man from West Africa who, owing to limited English, a learning disability and epilepsy, rarely left the hotel. This trip not only boosted his confidence to explore new places but also helped him form connections and strengthened his sense of belonging in the community.



# YOUNG HEARTS, OPEN DOORS, NEW HOPE



**SVP**   
**1833**

Aged just 19, Blessed Frédéric Ozanam founded the SVP in 1833. That same youthful energy thrives through our youth programmes: Mini Vinnies, Young Vincentians, and SVP1833.

Mini Vinnies are children aged 7–11 in schools and parishes who put their faith into action through prayer, reflection, and service. The programme is growing strongly, with 103 new schools and one parish expressing interest in 2024–25. Our Jubilee resources were accessed over 14,800 times, the Time for Hope Lent campaign 2,790 times, and more than £12,000 worth of resources were purchased across Young Vincentians groups. Feedback from coordinators has been very positive, praising both the quality and variety of what's on offer.

Mini Vinnies show that even the youngest in our Church can lead with compassion and make a real difference in their communities.

Youth SVP unites young people aged 11–18 who live out their faith through service, friendship, and justice. This year, 88 groups were active across England and Wales, taking part in projects such as food collections, outreach to people who are homeless, and work alongside adult SVP members.

Growth continues, with 12 new parish-based groups giving Mini Vinnies and newcomers a way to stay involved. At St Bede's, Lanchester, pupils, staff, and parishioners raised £3,800 through fundraising events. Supported by SVP volunteers and the Youth Team, Youth SVP reached over 2,100 young people — building community and inspiring lasting compassion.



The mission of Vinnie Camps is to provide, within a Christian ethos, a safe enjoyable holiday experience for children. The SVP currently runs ten Vinnie Camps each summer; Brentwood, Holy Island, Leeds, Liverpool, Mablethorpe, Manchester, Middlesbrough, Stockport, Wirral and Wales. Vinnie Camps are staffed by dedicated, caring volunteers, offering a high ratio of adult-to-child supervision, meaning each and every child receives a great deal of time and positive attention, perhaps more than some have ever known before.

With Pope Francis, in the year of Jubilee, reminding us that merciful love is key to our faith by making one of the five holy doors, a prison door in Rome, our hope is to inspire more of our SVP1833 Conferences to reach out and support their neighbours who are in the prison community.

**flame** CYMFED 2025

Jasmine and Tommy (SVP1833 members) and Nathan (from Ely Bridge CSP), took to the OVO Arena Wembley stage to share more about the work of the SVP. FLAME is the largest Catholic youth event across England and Wales.





In March, SVP1833 York, gathered in their Chaplaincy Garden to partake in an SVP sponsored sleep. It was a heartfelt solidarity action to connect with those who face the harsh realities of homelessness every day. They raised £1,010 for the SVP, with the money going to help the Middlesbrough Vinnie Camp and their fortnightly pizza run. It also went to national SVP1833 opportunities and funded 2 places on the SVP1833 Pilgrimage to Walsingham.



Between December 2024 and January 2025, the SVP1833 (Young Adult Conferences) at Oxford University Catholic Chaplaincy, supported the prison community in HMP Bullingdon. The two Catholic chaplains at HMP Bullingdon reached out to the SVP Working Prisons group as warm clothes and shoes were desperately needed for the community being released, with the likelihood of non-permanent shelter upon release. This is where the beauty of the SVP network really shone. The SVP Working Prisons group, contacted the Young Vincentian Team and together they were able to provide support through SVP1833. In total, sixty-six items were collected ranging from woolly jumpers to socks and shoes.



The SVP1833 Conference got to work straight away with organising the donation drop off point, advertising the clothing drive to the local Parish and listing the items that the community needed. In total, sixty-six items were collected ranging from woolly jumpers to socks and shoes. One of our SVP1833 members said “ I thought about donating some of my pre-loved clothes, and then I thought, the power of clothes to make someone feel valued, worthy and loved can be enormous, so I popped out and went to my local supermarket to get brand new t-shirts and trousers.”

### Reflection from our Wirral Camp Leader

Each year, we strive to create a truly memorable experience for the children at our SVP camp—one that offers them an escape from their everyday challenges. Many of these kids face difficult circumstances, so it's crucial that we make a lasting impact and provide them with a genuine break.

This year, we drew inspiration from children's TV shows, crafting an ongoing narrative that unfolded throughout the week. Our goal was to immerse the kids in a story where they weren't just participants but became part of the adventure.

From the moment they arrived, they were introduced to Mr. Octopus Head, the quirky owner of the camp. As the week progressed, they met more characters, including Robo, a robot, and Nordic-Bone, a Viking—both of whom were vying to take over the camp. These characters were woven into many of the activities, creating a storyline that the children could engage with. Whether it was the characters birthday parties, water fights, or building dens, every event nudged the story forward. As the days went on, the kids worked to prevent various takeover attempts, ultimately saving the camp.

Beyond the storyline, our team was eager to refresh our activities this year. We wanted to avoid the sense of repetition that can come with running the same activities year after year and a fear we weren't always improving. As a result, every activity was either completely new or had undergone major changes to keep things fresh.





# THROUGH EVERY DOOR A WELCOME, EVERY WELCOME A BLESSING

Our Community Support Projects (CSPs) are based in 11 locations across England and Wales. They are all located in identified areas of need and provide local people with support, advice and friendship. Each of the centres has its own unique character, reflecting the community it serves. All of the centres share the same characteristics – being inclusive, welcoming and accessible to all.

In 2024–2025, the centres experienced an intense increase in demand for their services with over 216,000 interactions. In many instances requests for help came from people who had not previously needed to seek support. One noticeable and shocking change was the significant increase in people who, despite being employed – often full time – found themselves needing to ask for help.

Although the centres deal with serious issues and help people in times of crisis, visitors are always surprised to find a happy and relaxed atmosphere.

Each team of dedicated staff and volunteers works tirelessly to ensure that everyone has a positive experience. You'll often hear the phrase, "bring yourself" which reflects the idea that everyone is welcome to come as they are and be accepted for who they are. The underlying principles are kindness and hope and dignity for all.



In St Vincent's Newcastle, kindness and hope are evident in many ways. Approximately 200 people visit the centre each Tuesday to be served a delicious, freshly cooked 3-course meal. The total number of meals provided in 24/25 was a staggering 10,746. Every meal is served to a neatly laid table by one of the many volunteers. This may be the only time of the week people attending get a hot meal and a chance to sit and chat with others. On Thursdays, the centre's Marketplace brings the community in to search for a bargain or two, to access advice, have a haircut or simply sit and enjoy a cup of tea. The centre is a bustling hub of activity and chatter and brings together diverse elements of the local community.

A few miles across the city, Newcastle Deaf Centre offers different services and activities. It also has a thriving youth group. In 2024/25, this group has grown from strength to strength and has participated in many exciting opportunities including developing a short film, taking part in university research and visiting places of interest and education.

## Cara found her voice, her passion and her future

Cara\* joined the Deaf Centre Youth Group feeling shy and unsure about what lay ahead. She had just spent her first two years out of school caring for her younger siblings. With encouragement and guidance, she uncovered a passion for hospitality and social care.

She went on to complete specialist training, volunteer in a care home, and secure a place on the Level 3 Social Care course at Newcastle College. While waiting to begin her studies, Cara built further skills through workshops run by the centre and gained valuable experience with a summer job at Newcastle United.

Her confidence has flourished, and she is now stepping forward with purpose, equipped for a promising future.

\*Name changed to protect privacy.

At the other end of the country, St Vincent's Brighton (known locally as Tower House) has developed a range of excellent services tailored to the needs of older people.

Following a review and refresh of the centre in 2023, 2024-25 saw a real hub of activities and support come to life. With over 400 guests coming to the centre during the year, people were able to access a range of activities as diverse as wonderful lunch clubs, gentle exercise sessions, podiatry services and even an afternoon of armchair travel to Jamaica, complete with a mocktail.

Being seen as a safe, welcoming space is vital for all our CSPs. At St Vincent's Southend, they have developed a culture of belonging and hope for some of the most vulnerable members of the community. The centre offers a pathway from crisis, to engagement and connection. 2024-25 saw the Pioneer Project bloom. The project upskilled people to use a 3-D printer and also an embroidery machine. This built skills, knowledge and confidence and supports service users to become peer mentors, showing others that there is always hope.



Offering food is another important part of what we do in our centres. This could be a free meal for someone in need, an emergency food parcel for a family in crisis, or offering good quality, low-cost food at our marketplaces and pantries. Our Chorley centre, Chorley Buddies @SVP, operate 4 community marketplaces across the town. In 2024-25, there were 9,805 shopping experiences. It's about much more than food though- connections are made, people can ask for support if they need it and the team can be the vital conduit to accessing other services and organisations.

The CSP furniture referral projects also offer hope- turning empty houses into homes, with the offer of free furniture delivered to those in need. Sheffield furniture project and St Vincent's Leeds provided 1,790 deliveries in 2024-2025. This included beds for children who were sleeping on the floor and items equipping a patient's home to enable them to be discharged from hospital.

### **Tower House: breaking social isolation**

I'm pleased to say I love coming to Tower House. It has stopped me staying in my flat every day and I love going on the outings

Club Member, April 2024

Helping people keep well, physically and mentally, is another offering found in our CSPs. In Ely Bridge, Cardiff, 2024–25 has seen the development and growth of the following range of programmes: ‘Men Changing Lives’, ‘Beyond Fitness’, ‘Beyond Differences’ and ‘Women Changing Lives’. Each group focuses on different aspects of keeping well. Each provides an important focus on health and well-being, such as spending time working out in the gym, discussing lifestyle challenges and opportunities, or focusing on developing confidence and resilience.

In St Vincent’s Brixton, the focus is very much on community togetherness. The centre has always been a creative space but 2024–25 has seen growth to broaden the scope and involve even more of the community. The place is filled with a sense of wellbeing, hope and opportunity. The ‘You are You’ project has seen many young people grow in confidence and learn about resilience and kindness. Many new activities have been introduced including drumming for wellbeing, a cookery class for women and girls living in a hostel, and a very competitive sewing bee.

In Wirral, the CSP team have established a community allotment. This is the perfect place for people to meet in the fresh air and bond over nurturing the plants. Many regular visitors reported a definite improvement in their wellbeing and mental health as a result.



## Meet Declan

Here is the amazing Declan working out at the gym. He has been an inspiration to us here at St Vincent’s Ely Bridge. He continues to manage his anxiety and increase his confidence, going from strength to strength.

### Taylor-Mae’s journey through arts & cooking

Taylor-Mae is aged 10. She joined Brixton’s Arts and Cooking sessions for two full terms from September 2024 to March 2025. Taylor-Mae has a learning disability and hearing impairment. On her first session staff were told by her mother that she was a quiet and anxious individual who very rarely joined in other groups outside of school. Across both terms, she blossomed into a confident young girl who showed she was particularly fond of cooking .

In the communal dining sessions, staff observed her chatting with peers, laughing and smiling. Cooking and dining with other young people her age provided the space for her to form strong friendships. She went on a playdate with another member of the group. When she first joined, she would not engage in conversation. Now, as a result of her time at the centre, Taylor-Mae will now initiate them and is confident to voice her opinions.



# DWELLING IN HOPE: HOMES BUILT ON FAITH



The SVP continues to respond to the ongoing need, and in 2024-25 year, our housing projects provided accommodation for 89 people facing homelessness.

Our Newcastle project provides twenty-three units of supported accommodation for single people.

## Our project units are comprised of:



The demographic of our Newcastle hostel residents has changed over the past couple of years, with increased support provided to people from outside the UK who have been granted the right to remain in the country. 16 of the 36 residents supported this year came from outside the UK. In addition, our 2-bed flat in North Shields was occupied all year by residents referred by the SVP Approved Premises.

In North Norfolk the Society continued to operate 7 Temporary Emergency Accommodation units, which in 2024-25 housed 16 family units, including 37 children, 1 pregnant lady and 19 family/medical support pets. Over 50% of our families were victims of domestic abuse, and 93% were originally homeless through no fault of their own. Around 50% were struggling with mental health conditions and approximately 25% were living with physical health conditions. Around a quarter of our families have a child with a learning disability.

Our staff team work very closely with the local SVP Conference. 10 of our tenants over the last year have been supported by the Conference, either financially or with practical support and gifts. In 2024 we grew our housing provision locally, adding a 3 bed semi-detached family property for Supported living. We were delighted to move a family from our Temporary Emergency Accommodation into this house, where they received support to settle and make it a home, setting them on their way to housing stability and breaking the cycle of homelessness.

# HOPE TRAVELS FAR: OPENING DOORS OVERSEAS

The SVP Twinning programme is embedded in the founding values of mutual assistance; building a worldwide network of charity, love, and solidarity. Annual grants from Conferences in England & Wales support an estimated 1,300 twins overseas, helping to provide essentials, education, healthcare, and the hope of a better, more self-sufficient future.

Each Conference in India commits their twinning grant towards supporting locally “adopted families”. Members support these families through provision of food parcels, household essentials, clothes, and monthly visits.

Parth\* is the sole provider for his family, including his two sick, bedridden parents. Despite working hard, he often struggles to make ends meet. Thanks to the adopted families scheme, hope was restored – his family have enough to eat, stay healthy, and Parth can work consistently. Every contribution through this scheme can help break the cycle of poverty for families like Parth’s.

In Grenada and South Sudan, persistent inflation impacting the cost of food, medication, and other basic needs is affecting those already struggling to meet daily demands. The SVP helps the most vulnerable and marginalised individuals and families to meet these costs, especially where there is no social security system in place. Hampers of essentials like salt, oil, maize, flour, beans, and sugar are gifted. Conferences may also cook and welcome those in need within the community to join for a full meal.



SVP Conferences in Guyana and Romania often allocate twinning grants for Easter and Christmas, recognising how meaningful these moments can be for those facing hardship. By providing thoughtful support – such as gifts or sweets for children, fresh fruit for the elderly, or food hampers for families – they help bring a sense of joy, dignity, and togetherness to what might otherwise be a difficult time. These gestures not only make the holidays feel special and festive, but also offer a much-needed emotional lift and a reminder that they are not forgotten.

Many of our overseas twin conferences also run local projects, for which they can apply to SVP England & Wales for funding. A Conference in Romania organised a cultural day trip for children living in poverty. The children explored their local town, learned its history, shared a hot meal with friends, and enjoyed a day of joy and discovery. For many of these children, this was their first opportunity to venture beyond their home or school, even though the trip only involved a few miles of travel. Afterwards, one child excitedly shared his adventure with his mum, saying that he realised the world was full of amazing experiences and he couldn’t wait for more.

\*name changed for anonymity\*

## SVP India Conference

The need in our community is great, and your contributions can help us reach more individuals in need.

## SVP South Sudan

The lives of many beneficiaries has been prolonged by the generous contribution and support from SVP England & Wales.

## SVP India Member

When we [SVP members] eat a good meal, our adopted families eat a good meal. This is our Conference pledge.

## SVP India Conference

We sincerely thank you for your invaluable contributions, which have made a significant difference in the lives of many people in our community.





Alongside Conference Twinning, our Overseas programme includes student support via the India Fund, conference-run projects, national projects, and responses to global emergencies.

It is the SVP's mission to seek out and support those in need. Emergencies – such as Hurricane Beryl's devastating impact on the island of Carriacou in Grenada in July 2024 – can cause a dramatic surge in that need, often at short notice. With thanks to our generous donors, SVP England & Wales was able to grant £25,000 over a 9-month period. This enabled SVP Grenada to quickly mobilise with urgently needed water, food, medicine, bedding, flashlights, bug spray, sanitiser, toiletries, and other basic essentials – alongside developing a plan for long-term recovery.

SVP Grenada bought hope and reassurance to hundreds of people who had endured an incredibly traumatic experience – losing homes, possessions, and witnessing harm to loved ones. The local SVP recognised that children needed space to process their experiences and express their emotions. They arranged two trauma workshops for over 100 children; there was singing, crying, laughter, arts and crafts and, most importantly, the chance for children to simply be children again, playing freely in the safety and comfort of one another's company.

The SVP Vocational Training Centre in South Sudan offers high-quality and affordable qualifications in building and construction, welding, first aid and nursing, mechanics, tailoring, refrigeration and cooling, engineering and more.

At the end of the school year, SVP South Sudan celebrated a graduation ceremony for 526 students, honouring their dedication and achievements. The event was filled with joy, pride, and hope for the future, for both the graduates and their families. This year marked the highest number of graduates ever, with the largest proportion of females to date. Committed to fighting poverty and expanding opportunities for all, a focus is placed on gender equality too. The Project leader described the graduation as, "a colourful event which softened our hearts".

Over 100 top-performing students in relevant courses were gifted with toolboxes, to enable them to successfully start their own businesses. SVP South Sudan hopes to soon expand this support by opening a job centre, offering graduates additional guidance as they begin the next chapter of their lives.



# FROM BARRIERS TO DOORWAYS: HOPE THROUGH JUSTICE

“Charity is the Samaritan who pours oil on the wounds of the traveller who has been attacked. It is justice’s role to prevent the attacks.”

The words of our founder Blessed Frédéric Ozanam. Our social justice work reflects this; we campaign to address the root causes of poverty and hardship witnessed by Members, volunteers and staff.

We maintain primary focus on four policy areas:



This year, we responded to the changing political landscape and deep social needs. We used our voice to champion dignity, fairness, and the protection of those on the margins.

In collaboration with CAFOD, our ‘Year of Encounter’ campaign mobilised thousands ahead of the General Election to engage with parliamentary candidates, using our digital tools and question guides. Many attended local hustings or wrote directly to candidates. The campaign attracted Catholic media coverage, raising SVP’s profile and strengthening our ability to build relationships with new MPs.

With the establishment of the Government’s Child Poverty Unit, we contributed insight from our grassroots networks:

- Met with senior civil servants at the Department for Work and Pensions
- Co-signed a joint letter to the Chancellor and Work and Pensions Secretary with leading anti-poverty charities
- Submitted policy evidence to ChurchWorks, shared with the Chancellor
- Published a food provision briefing to support parliamentary advocacy
- We signed a joint sector letter to the Government on extending the move-on period for refugees

We helped draft recommendations in advance of the Government’s Budget and advocated to remove the two-child cap in Universal Credit.

We were recognised in Parliament by MP David Burton-Sampson, who praised our work in Southend. We met other MPs from all parties over the year.

ITV News featured two segments on our social justice work – one highlighting support for asylum seekers, another on proposed deportation policies.

Our in-work poverty research entered its final stages, with a stakeholder workshop held ahead of the planned report publication later in 2025. We published our ‘Keep the Doors of Hope Open’ report which highlighted our activities, initiatives, & projects across the country.

We engaged with key government departments, presenting our findings and priorities on asylum seekers – a particular focus in the last quarter – directly to the Home Office.

We deepened partnerships across faith and other groups:

- Attended the Labour Party Conference to meet newly appointed ministers
- Took part in cross-sector roundtables on poverty issues
- Coordinated with Caritas, CSAN and Good Faith Partnership on shared advocacy
- Issued public responses to major political moments including the King’s Speech

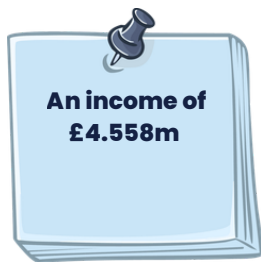
At every stage, our work has reflected the witness of our members – who work daily alongside people affected by poverty, isolation and displacement.



# HOPE IN EVERY AISLE: OPENING DOORS THROUGH RETAIL

Our network of St Vincent's shops allows us to further our mission by raising vital funds for the Society to help those in need. However, they are more than just retail outlets; they provide employment and volunteering opportunities, affordable goods and have significant impact diverting goods from landfill and recycling to reuse.

They are vibrant 'community' shops where staff, volunteers, customers, and donors come together. They create supportive networks that enrich lives and strengthen community. Our inclusive and welcoming environments ensure that everyone feels valued and connected and helps to create lasting relationships within the communities where they are based. In the 2024/25, we had:



Through our eCommerce and eBay platforms, we sold 2,558 preloved items with an average basket size of £25.60. Women's fashion remained our top-selling department, supported by a 6.3% increase in repeat customers.

The commitment of our staff, volunteers, and the continued support of our loyal customers have been instrumental to our development over the last 12-months with 3 new shops opening.

- York: Opened in April 2024
- Leigh on Sea: Opened in June 2024
- Wetherby: Opened in September 2024

Owing to financial constraints in the second half of the year, new shop development ceased as we underwent a staffing restructure and significantly reduced our staff management resource.

Shop staff were largely unaffected; however sadly the Wrexham, Erdington and Halifax shops had to be closed during the year, as a result of untenable cost increases or lease ends.

As we look ahead, whilst we remain focused on raising funds and continuing to make a positive impact on the lives of those we serve, we will not look for growth with new shops but for growth of income within our current shops, as costs continue to rise.





# OUR FUNDRAISING YEAR IN NUMBERS

**17**

Summer  
Raffle Winners

**333**

Friends of  
the SVP

**£59,897**

in match funding  
for our appeals

**45**

Gifts in  
Wills

**591**

New  
Supporters

**£70,159**

Raised in Awards  
for All

**46**

Free Will  
Writing Requests

**£4,285**

Raised in requests to  
Acts 435 for grants

**79,610**

Summer Raffle  
tickets sold

**153**

Lottery  
Players

**5,472**

Donations for where  
most  
needed

**£163,320**

Raised from Doors  
of Hope appeal

**331**

In-memory  
donations

**£12,995**

Raised from  
weekly lottery

**£848,990**

Raised in  
legacy gifts



St Vincent  
de Paul Society

England and Wales

Turning Concern into Action

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (ENGLAND & WALES)**

Allenby House,  
Rees Way,  
Bradford,  
BD3 0DZ

Company No: 3174679 Charity No: 1053992



[SVP.ORG.UK](https://www.svp.org.uk)

READ OUR FULL REPORT  
WITH ANNUAL ACCOUNTS:



**0207 703 3030**

DONATE BY  
SCANNING BELOW:



# STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

As part of an international lay Christian organisation, Catholic in origin, character, and traditions, which respects religious liberty and the value of all God's people, the objects of the Charity are:

- The relief of poverty and sickness without differentiation on the ground of race, colour, creed, ideology or sex and in particular, but not so as to limit the generality of the foregoing, to bring spiritual and/or material solace to the sick or individuals who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress due to their social, economic or other circumstances.
- The undertaking, in any part of the world, of such other object or objects which are exclusively charitable according to the law of England and Wales as the Charity in its discretion shall see fit.

The overall objective of the Charity is the relief of poverty, both material and emotional in England & Wales and abroad through: the person to person involvement of its voluntary members engaged in befriending and through 'Special Works', which are projects established to address specific needs in the local community, such as food banks or advice and support centres. The Society is constituted under the laws of England & Wales as a company limited by guarantee (Company Number: 3174679). The Society is also a Charity registered with the Charity Commission (Charity Number: 1053992).

The overarching governing document of the Society is the Articles of Association and is to be read in conjunction with the International Rule and the National Statutes. Where there is a conflict between the Articles of Association and the National Statutes of the Society, the Articles will take precedence. However, there are periodic reviews that take place to ensure alignment where practicable to do so.

The Articles of Association describe the Society's objects, guarantees, powers and their limitation. They define 'Membership' of the Company (i.e. the National Council) and describe the governance processes, including how changes and decisions are made. The National Statutes provide the framework for the governance and operation of the Society. Detailed management of the Society's affairs are covered in relevant Policies and Procedures, which should be treated as a part of the Rule.

The first International Rule was introduced in 1835 and is periodically reviewed and updated by International Council General of the International Confederation of the Society of St Vincent de Paul.

The Society adopts this corporate governance framework to deliver its strategic priorities and objectives and to ensure it complies with the Charity Commission's legal and regulatory requirements (The Charities Act 2022) and adheres to the legislative requirements outlined in the Companies Act 2006. The Society believes that effective governance is based on ensuring there is a culture of compliance across its works and practices. This is implemented through policies and procedures, external and internal audit plans, robust and resilient risk assessments, and a culture of continuous learning.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees consists of a minimum of nine and a maximum of thirteen people, including the Chair (also known as the National President). The Board is responsible for the overall governance of the St Vincent de Paul Society (England & Wales). On the election of a new National President by the National Council, the President shall nominate up to five Trustees, at least three of whom will be Central Council Presidents, and shall also nominate a Vice President and a National Treasurer.

Each Trustee must be formally confirmed by the National Council to serve for a period of five years. Up to five new Trustees are selected halfway through the President's five-year term to act as continuation Trustees and serve for a term of five years. Up to four non-members of the Society may be appointed as Trustees provided that they commit to the values of the Society and have skills which are required by the Society. All Trustees are subject to a formal recruitment process based on their skills and experience to ultimately support the deliverables against the charity's objects. The table below shows the current Board members who were all appointed in previous years and new continuation Trustees appointed in May 2025.

Trustee Name	Status	Responsibility
Elaine Heyworth	Trustee	National President
Steve Gill	Trustee	Senior Vice President
Mark Branch	Trustee	National Treasurer
Winston Waller	Trustee	Membership Strategic
Liz Creevy	Trustee	Membership Spirituality
Clare O'Brien	Trustee	Property Portfolio
Gustavo Vas Falcao	Trustee	Social Justice
Monica Chidgey	Trustee	Safeguarding
Nasha Pierre	Trustee	General Portfolio
Anita Motha	Trustee	Overseas Aid (Non-Member)
Peter McGauley	Incoming Continuation Trustee	Retail Portfolio
Pat Nobbs	Incoming Continuation Trustee	General Portfolio
Tony McGuigan	Incoming Continuation Trustee	General Portfolio

In addition, Fr Paul Roche attends Board meetings as a National Spiritual Advisor. The selection of Trustees seeks to maintain a balance of skills and experience appropriate to the charity's activities, as well as bringing increased diversity and inclusion.

An induction programme is offered to all new Trustees to ensure they are briefed on the Charity's objectives, strategy and activities, as well as understanding Charity Commission guidance on the role of a Trustee and good governance. The Board meets at least four times a year to review the performance of the Charity, both financially and in meeting its charitable objectives. All meeting discussions are recorded in the minutes taken and stored electronically as part of the normal governance process.

The Society has established clear levels of delegated authority within which:

- some decisions are reserved to the Board alone. Some decisions are made by the Executive Trustees, who are the National President, the Senior Vice President and the Treasurer.
- responsibility for the day-to-day running of the Charity is delegated to the Chief Executive who may in turn delegate authority to the Senior Management team. The Chief Executive attends all Board meetings; other senior managers attend as required.
- the Chief Executive is required to escalate high risk and/or high impact issues for the timely attention and consideration of the Board and produces a CEO report for each meeting.
- the Board sets the strategic direction for the efficient and effective management of the Society's funds and strategic roadmap. In late 2024 the Board set a revised strategy for the Society for the next 3 years.
- the Board will establish committees, sub committees or working groups to fulfil ongoing or time-limited governance functions (usually at the start of office of the new National President elect), formed of Trustees, other members, external experts, and operational staff.
- the Board regularly evaluates its own performance through the 'annual Board review', examining its impact and effectiveness and any improvements required in its organisation or operation. This is done in line with the Charity Commission Governance Code guidance.

The Society's members are organised in local Conferences to carry out the work of the Charity. Conferences are grouped together in geographical areas and are overseen by District Councils which in turn report to Central Councils which are structured, as far as possible, to reflect the 23 Roman Catholic Dioceses across England & Wales. The President of each Central Council sits on the National Council. No Central Council, District Council or Conference may be established as a separate charity and all constitute parts of the Charity operating under the delegated authority of the Trustees.

#### **SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD**

These committees are given delegated powers by the main Board of Trustees where each is chaired by a Board member. They are responsible for supporting a specific area of operational oversight and their activities are reported to the Board. As the number and structure of the committees reflect prevailing priorities, they are reviewed and updated periodically. Each committee has its own Terms of Reference, which are reviewed annually.

The role of each of the committees during 2024-25 was as follows:

- Finance: reviews and recommends for approval to the board, budgets and other financial governance matters in addition to fundraising.
- Community Support Projects: supports and develops sustainable community projects in appropriate areas.
- Membership & Youth: reviews membership issues, internal relationships, the structure of the Society, recruitment, training at all levels. In late 2024 it incorporated all youth related programmes across schools, colleges, youth hubs, universities, and parishes, as well as oversight of the Vinnie camps through its management team. Vinnie Camps provide a safe and enjoyable experience for young people in accordance with defined Safeguarding and Health & Safety procedures.
- Audit & Compliance: oversees Society wide risks and reviews control systems (Safeguarding, Human Resources, Health & Safety, Risk Assessment, Data Protection, IT support and Insurance arrangements) as well as overseeing all internal audit activity.
- Safeguarding: oversees systems to ensure that the controls in place are effective and review ongoing case management, deliver training for Conference members, staff and volunteers to ensure general awareness and that procedures are followed.
- Twinning: reviews overseas aid activities from local funding to international grant applications and where appropriate emergency aid funding on an ad hoc basis.
- Social Justice: explores opportunities for SVP contributions to the poverty agenda, both within and outside the Society and supports campaigning activity.
- Prisons: ensures that the Society is fully compliant in all matters relating to working in and outside of prisons with offenders, ex-offenders and families, providing both spiritual and practical support.
- Property: reviews and oversees issues and risks relating to SVP property portfolio and maintains statutory requirements where the Society has residential or social housing obligations.
- Retail & Social Enterprise: reviews and oversees all activity associated with the national SVP portfolio of Community shops and other income generating projects that sit in either the Charity or the Trading company.

## **KEY RISKS IDENTIFIED DURING 2024-25**

The Trustees regularly review the risks faced by the Charity to develop appropriate controls and deliver the charity's strategic aims. The main risks monitored include:

- Delivery of safe, effective, and personalised poverty relief, especially in the context of charitable activities involving children and vulnerable adults.
- Financial sustainability, especially in the context of the current economic situation.
- Strategic and Operational, ensuring that our strategy is proportionate and does not lose sight of our overall charitable objects.

Key themes that develop through the Society's focus on risk management are fed into the annual strategic review. Primarily considering that the Society saw a triple threat to its operations in 2024, as the demand on services continued to grow in the sector, the cost of living continued to rise and the decline in grant funding and legacies contributed in adding extra burden to the already stretched resources across the Charity sector in general. The key risk areas were:

### **Financial risks**

Like many charities, the Society has been impacted by rising costs in building maintenance and infrastructure costs and utility charges by suppliers as a result of the cost of living crisis. We continue to see unprecedented demand for funding and for services from beneficiaries, at a time when some public services have declined and charities have either merged or had to close down. We remain committed to being a real living wage employer and have seen significant staff cost increases in the last year due to this. Like many charities in the sector in order to control increasing costs we had to reduce our operational cost base in late 2024 which led to a number of staff redundancies and a strategic reset on some planned expansion of services.

### **Fundraising and Grant making bodies**

The fundraising landscape continues to impact on us post pandemic, due to the lack of availability of appropriate trusts and grants in the sector, opportunities are reducing as more charities apply for the same funds. To mitigate this, we have invested in further trust fund resources, taken a more targeted approach to certain applications and invested in a legacy management database and a case management system providing more qualitative data on beneficiary outcomes that can be shared with potential funders.

### **Operational risks**

One of the key operational risks we addressed in 2024 was the ongoing management of the Approved Premises (APs) service in Newcastle.

With the approach of the impending contract renewal for the AP service with the MoJ, the staff and Trustees reassessed the risks associated with the service in line with the annual strategic review. With increased pressures from the early release scheme, increased costs and the operational challenges of offering a service that was not SVP core expertise, the Trustees took the difficult decision to novate the contract to another more experienced provider in the field. The SVP, in conjunction with the MoJ, undertook a rigorous novation and transfer exercise over a 12 month period to ensure the service users were not adversely impacted by this change which was concluded in March 25.

## **KEY STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2024-25**

As stated earlier a revised strategy was developed towards the end of 2024 as a result of the operational cost challenges. The Trustees and the SMT looked at ways to slow the rate of expansion or halt in some cases. For example, plans to expand our emergency housing provision were put on hold to avoid further financial burden to the property portfolio. The Trustees also agreed to liquidate some assets and two properties were put on the market in line with Charity Commission guidance on the disposal of charity properties. Staffing and expansion objectives were reduced and departments were streamlined to offer continued services but, in a cost effective and manageable way, as well focusing on our members and how we can continue to deliver our mission. This also provided the Society with the opportunity to reevaluate what is our core work and to focus all remaining resources and efforts in these areas.

The revised priorities are:

1. Put our faith and values at the heart of everything we do – the Society is Catholic and Vincentian, and the Board is keen to ensure that the organisation keeps true to these aspects of our identity which underpin our culture and ethos. Our work is informed both by Catholic Social Teaching and by our Vincentian heritage, and while we continue to manage our works in response to need, these are the foundations upon which we build. This foundation informs our ethos but our work is inclusive and supports all those in need, regardless of faith or belief. Our staff and many of our volunteers are of all faiths and none but they share the commitment to Vincentian service and compassion for those in need of help.
2. To reach out to and welcome those on the peripheries who need our help – the Catholic Church has recently undertaken a synodal process of listening and discernment. The initial published documents emphasise the need to reach out and journey with those on the peripheries. This objective is also a restatement of the words of the Vincentian prayer on the theme of our vocation, “to seek and find those who are forgotten and to bring your love to the suffering or deprived.”
3. Be a cohesive Society where members and staff work together – we are first and foremost a membership organisation and so we reinforced our priorities on being “member led”. Therefore, enabling and supporting our members and staff in order to deliver against our objects, through effective training and shared values and reaffirmation of Catholic Social teaching.
4. To campaign for social justice in order to effect change for those we serve – in our Vincentian prayer on the theme of social justice we are called “to be a voice for the voiceless.” While we have long been a society of practical action, we have not always been as proactive on social justice and addressing the systemic causes of poverty, be that government policy or regional and national structures which contribute to disadvantages. So, this is an area of focus for us going forward.
5. To achieve financial sustainability – sustained growth only if it is underpinned by sustainable income. The Society continues to develop a portfolio of funding streams to provide resilient funding. Fundraising, retail, investments and our trading operations are all key to those plans.
6. Deliver a coherent and consistent brand – in order to respond to demand, to deliver our services and develop our income streams, it is important that people know who we are and what we do. We want to develop a strong and well-known identity in all areas of our work that is consistent, easily recognisable and speaks of who we are, what we do and what we stand for.

## **OTHER UNDERTAKINGS**

The SVP is the custodian trustee for the following three undertakings:

- The Pen-y-Pound House Fund was formed in 1973 to alleviate poverty in the Catholic Archdiocese of Cardiff. It comprises a permanent endowment fund which is invested on a recognised stock exchange to provide income for furthering the Trust’s objectives.
- The TB Hunt Fund is a permanent endowment fund established with monies left to the SVP by Thomas Bernard Hunt, who died in 1928. His desire was to alleviate poverty among the Catholic poor in the areas of Leicester and Market Harborough. The SVP distributes grants on a quarterly basis to people in need in these areas. In April 2025 the charity put in a request to the Charity Commission to change its objects to expand the scope to include the Roman Catholic Diocese of Nottingham, which includes Leicester and Market Harborough and this was approved.
- The Francis Thompson Fund is a permanent endowment fund arising from a legacy whose terms are to invest the fund in quoted investments on a recognised stock exchange to provide an income for Christ the King Conference in Wavertree, Liverpool.

In addition, the Society has oversight of: The David Young Charity (charity number: 238877)



# FUNDRAISING STRATEGY

The difficulties facing the whole voluntary sector in recent years show no signs of easing as we move through 2025. Many charities continue to grapple with a tough mix of falling income, rising operational costs, and growing demand for services. At the same time, as households across the country feel the pinch, competition for charitable support has become even more fierce. Investment in a case management database is coming to fruition with meaningful and qualitative data on beneficiary outcomes which can be shared with potential funders.

At the heart of what we do is our Vincentian mission to turn concern into action. We would not be able to do this without the kindness and generosity of our donors and supporters who have helped us reach the peripheries to ensure we can respond and restore dignity to all who are facing a crisis.

The year saw a record breaking and successful summer raffle with 79,610 tickets sold. Our annual Christmas Appeal also raised an incredible £163,321, and a big thank you to the major donors, whose support created a match-funding pot of £59,897 to incentivise pound for pound match giving during the appeal.

We continue to benefit from grants, in-memoriam donations, gifts in wills, and donations made through the purchase of alternative gifts in our Christmas catalogue. The continuation of our weekly lottery, running with 153 players provided another source of income.

Donors to The St Vincent de Paul Society (England & Wales) can be confident that we comply with the regulatory standards for fundraising. We are registered with the Fundraising Regulator and adhere to the Code of Fundraising Practice which covers the requirements charities must follow as set out in the Charities Act 2016.

All our staff in the national fundraising team are members of the Chartered Institute of Fundraising, and we join online fundraising networks, attend webinars and online fundraising Conferences to keep up to date with regulations, the latest research and reports, trends and developments in fundraising and the future funding landscape.

The Board of Trustees is kept informed of fundraising practice through regular reports from the Director of Fundraising. Several board members are personally involved in supporting and promoting fundraising initiatives such as the Christmas and Rise to the Challenge appeals.

No commercial participators were engaged to carry out fundraising on behalf of the Charity. However, due to fundraising staff shortages and a challenging recruitment market, professional fundraisers were engaged on a freelance basis to submit applications on behalf of the Charity during the year. During the year, no failure to comply with the Code of Fundraising Practice was reported and no fundraising complaints were received.



St Vincent  
de Paul Society

England and Wales

Turning Concern into Action

# STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also directors of St Vincent de Paul Society (England & Wales) for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, 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 responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the reparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

## Public benefit

The Board of Trustees has given regard to the legislative and regulatory requirements for disclosing how its charitable objectives have provided benefit to the public. The Board of Trustees has complied with the duties set out in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011. This report outlines how our achievements during 2024-25 have benefitted the public, either directly or indirectly.

The Trustees' Report (including the Strategic Report) was approved on behalf of the Board of Trustees (in their capacity as company directors) on DATE NEEDED at the annual AGM and signed on their behalf by Elaine Heyworth, National President and Chair of Trustees.



**Elaine Heyworth,**  
**Chair of Trustees**

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## GOING CONCERN

The Trustees have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis after taking into account future budgets and cash forecasts covering the period of at least 12 months from the date of this report. The Trustees have identified no material uncertainties that cast significant doubt about the ability of the Society to continue as a going concern.

## NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

The overall net movement in funds for the year ended 31 March 2025 was a surplus of £1,269,378 compared to a deficit of £1,514,198 in the year ended 31 March 2024. This is largely of a result of pension gain.

## INCOME

Total income for the year increased by £438,361 to £16,235,862 compared to £15,797,501 in 2024. In 2024/25 we have followed discontinued operations accounting as a result of novating the Approved Premises.

## EXPENDITURE

The total expenditure in 2025 amounted to £18,195,589 compared to £17,588,493 in 2024 representing an increase of £607,096. This was largely due to increased expenditure across some services and especially on retail shops expansion £4,948,038 in 2025 compared to £4,458,313 in 2024 and spend at our Residential Provision (£2,620,461 in 2025 compared to £2,154,015 in 2024).

## GAINS AND LOSSES

The net loss on investments for 2025 amounted to £21,440 compared to a gain of £214,332 in 2024.

## PENSION FUND

The actuarial loss recognised on the pension fund in 2025 amounted to (£47,000) compared to a loss of £42,000 in 2024. However, the Tyne & Wear Pension fund was exited and crystallised on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025 resulting in a pension gain of £3,199,800.

## CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

The group cash at bank and in hand amounted to £4,795,200 in 2025 compared to £5,066,102 in 2024, representing a decrease of £270,902.

## TOTAL FUNDS

The total group funds at 31 March 2025 amounted to £12,515,777 compared to £11,246,400 at 31 March 2024 representing an increase of £1,269,377. A comparative summary of each category of fund is included in the balance sheet, and there is a detailed breakdown in note 24 of the accounts.



St Vincent  
de Paul Society

England and Wales

Turning Concern into Action



# AUDITOR'S REPORT

## OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of St Vincent de Paul Society (England & Wales) (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, the group and charity sheets and the consolidated cash flow statement and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the group and the parent charitable company as at 31 March 2025 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

## BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue. Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

## OTHER INFORMATION

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report which includes the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Annual Report which includes the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

# AUDITOR'S REPORT CONTINUED

## MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report and Strategic Report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 26, the trustees (who are also the directors of the parent charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We have been appointed as auditors under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with regulations made under that Act. Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the group and parent financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of noncompliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, are detailed in the following.

## IDENTIFYING AND ASSESSING RISKS RELATED TO IRREGULARITIES

We assessed the susceptibility of the group and parent charitable company's financial statements to material misstatement and how fraud might occur, including through discussions with the trustees, discussions within our audit team planning meeting, updating our record of internal controls and ensuring these controls operated as intended. We evaluated possible incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements. We identified laws and regulations that are of significance in the context of the group and parent charitable company by discussions with trustees and updating our understanding of the sectors in which the group and parent charitable company operate. Laws and regulations of direct significance in the context of the group and parent charitable company include the Companies Act 2006 and guidance issued by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

# AUDITOR'S REPORT CONTINUED

## AUDIT RESPONSE TO RISKS IDENTIFIED

We considered the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items, including a review of financial statement disclosures. We reviewed the parent charitable company's records of breaches of laws and regulations, minutes of meetings and correspondence with relevant authorities to identify potential material misstatements arising. We discussed the parent charitable company's policies and procedures for compliance with laws and regulations with members of management responsible for compliance. During the planning meeting with the audit team, the engagement partner drew attention to the key areas which might involve non-compliance with laws and regulations or fraud. We enquired of management whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations or knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud. We addressed the risk of fraud through management override of controls by testing the appropriateness of journal entries and identifying any significant transactions that were unusual or outside the normal course of business. We assessed whether judgements made in making accounting estimates gave rise to a possible indication of management bias. At the completion stage of the audit, the engagement partner's review included ensuring that the team had approached their work with appropriate professional scepticism and thus the capacity to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above, and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion. A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities).

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the parent charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the parent charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the parent charitable company and the parent charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

## Sally Appleton

(Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Saffery LLP

Statutory Auditors

10 Wellington Place, Leeds, LS1 4AP

Saffery LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.



**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (ENGLAND & WALES)**
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 March 2025**
**(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	2025	2024
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
Note		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>						
Donations and legacies	2	6,210,701	845,561	-	7,056,262	6,960,010
Other trading activities	3	148,271	-	-	148,271	473,724
Income from investments		249,377	33,671	-	283,048	242,386
Income from charitable activities:			-			
Retail Income		4,558,127	-	-	4,558,127	4,079,979
Holidays and camps		197,521	-	-	197,521	177,452
Residential provision		2,678,343	-	-	2,678,343	2,550,492
Community Support Projects		193,047	271,038	-	464,085	422,116
Social Enterprise Activities		603,465	-	-	603,465	638,951
Youth development		23,687	-	-	23,687	22,281
Other income		223,053	-	-	223,053	230,110
<b>Total income</b>	4	15,085,592	1,150,270	-	16,235,862	15,797,501
Continuing Operations		13,001,078	1,150,270	-	14,151,348	13,779,679
Discontinued Operations	30	2,084,514	-	-	2,084,514	2,017,822
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Expenditure on raising funds	5	1,105,252	-	-	1,105,252	1,074,221
Expenditure on charitable activities:						
Visits & assistance to						
individuals and families		3,235,440	564,451	-	3,799,891	3,879,361
Retail		4,948,038	-	-	4,948,038	4,458,313
Holidays and camps		305,621	-	-	305,621	521,118
Residential provision		2,620,461	-	-	2,620,461	2,154,015
Community Support Projects		3,105,241	271,038	-	3,376,279	3,381,886
Social Enterprise Activities		971,299	-	-	971,299	1,039,620
Youth Development Programme		404,467	37,182	-	441,649	423,319
Twinning		379,860	247,239	-	627,099	656,640
<b>Total expenditure</b>	6	17,075,679	1,119,910	-	18,195,589	17,588,493
Continuing Operations		14,943,280	1,119,910	-	16,063,190	15,772,128
Discontinued Operations	30	2,132,399	-	-	2,132,399	1,816,365
<b>Net (losses) / gains on investments</b>	14	30,868	539	(52,847)	(21,440)	214,332
<b>Share of (loss) / profit</b>						
<b>in jointly controlled entities</b>	18	-	97,744	-	97,744	104,462
<b>Net (expenditure) income</b>	7	(1,959,219)	128,643	(52,847)	(1,883,423)	(1,472,198)
Continuing Operations		(1,911,334)	128,643	(52,847)	(1,835,538)	(1,673,655)
Discontinued Operations	30	(47,885)	-	-	(47,885)	201,457
Transfers between funds	24	323,632	(332,019)	8,387		-
Pension exit gain	19	3,199,800	-	-	3,199,800	-
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension scheme	22	-	(47,000)	-	(47,000)	(42,000)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		1,564,213	(250,376)	(44,460)	1,269,377	(1,269,377)
<b>Funds at the start of the year</b>	23	8,486,132	1,609,728	1,150,540	11,246,400	12,760,598
<b>Funds at the end of the year</b>	23	10,050,345	1,359,352	1,106,080	12,515,777	11,246,400

		Group	Charity	Group	Charity
		2025	2025	2024	2024
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible fixed assets	12	2,419,373	2,299,759	2,795,598	2,695,612
Mixed motive Investment Freehold Property	12 & 13	1,413,129	1,413,129	1,171,007	1,171,007
Investments	14	1,479,417	441,794	2,671,018	1,592,981
Investments in subsidiaries	16	-	1	-	1
Investments in joint ventures	18	154,639	-	119,470	-
		<b>5,466,558</b>	<b>4,154,683</b>	<b>6,757,093</b>	<b>5,459,601</b>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stock		12,267	3,013	29,397	11,597
Debtors	19	3,973,580	4,217,036	842,463	1,152,623
Cash at bank and in hand		4,795,200	4,760,879	5,066,102	4,799,086
		<b>8,781,047</b>	<b>8,980,928</b>		<b>5,963,306</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year</b>	20	1,109,546	1,202,785	1,010,875	1,038,715
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>7,671,501</b>	<b>7,778,143</b>	<b>7,778,143</b>	<b>4,924,591</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than 1 year</b>	21	622,282	622,282	437,780	437,780
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>12,515,777</b>	<b>11,310,545</b>	<b>11,246,400</b>	<b>9,946,412</b>
<b>Defined benefit scheme pension asset / (liability)</b>	22	-	-	-	-
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>12,515,777</b>	<b>11,310,545</b>	<b>11,246,400</b>	<b>9,946,412</b>
<b>Funds</b>					
Endowment funds		1,106,080	189,386	1,150,540	201,279
Restricted funds		1,359,352	1,089,453	1,609,728	1,339,126
Unrestricted funds					
Revaluation reserve		625,477	625,477	625,477	625,477
Designated funds		3,566,195	3,566,195	5,780,958	5,663,996
General funds		5,858,673	5,840,034	2,079,697	2,116,534
<b>Total funds</b>	24	<b>12,515,777</b>	<b>11,310,545</b>	<b>11,246,400</b>	<b>9,946,412</b>

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 28th November 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



**Elaine Heyworth, National President**

**St Vincent de Paul Society (England & Wales). Company Number: 3174679**

		2025	2024
	Note	£	£
<b>Net cash (used in) operating activities</b>	a	<b>(1,608,941)</b>	<b>(1,546,585)</b>
<b>Net cash used in by investing activities</b>	b	<b>1,153,538</b>	<b>(354,821)</b>
<b>Net cash provided by financing activities</b>		<b>184,502</b>	<b>153,421</b>
<b>(Decrease) in cash in the year</b>		<b>(270,901)</b>	<b>(1,747,985)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds</b>			
(Decrease) in cash for the year		(270,901)	(1,747,985)
Net funds at beginning of year		5,066,101	6,814,086
<b>Net funds at end of year</b>	c	<b>4,795,200</b>	<b>5,066,101</b>

	2025	2024
	£	£
<b>a. Reconciliation of net cash used in operating activities</b>		
Net (expenditure) / income & pension gain before revaluations	1,240,075	(1,790,992)
Investment income	(283,048)	(242,386)
Depreciation	200,327	226,668
Loss / (Profit) on disposal of fixed assets	296,021	-
Defined benefit scheme net interest expense	(5,000)	(5,000)
Current service cost in excess of employer contributions	(42,000)	(37,000)
Increase in creditors	98,671	315,670
(Increase) / Decrease in debtors	(3,131,117)	272
Decrease / (Increase) in stocks	17,130	(13,817)
<b>Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities</b>	<b>(1,608,941)</b>	<b>(1,546,585)</b>

<b>b. Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>		
Investment income	283,048	242,386
Proceeds from sale of listed investments	1,224,592	140,289
Purchase of investments	(80,997)	(143,673)
Unrealised Gains eliminated on disposal	-	(1,945)
Decrease in Revive investment	62,575	108,421
(Increase) in cash held within investment portfolio	26,565	5,328
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(362,245)	(705,627)
	<b>1,153,538</b>	<b>(354,821)</b>

**c. Analysis of Net Funds**

	As at 01 Apr 2024	Cash flows	As at 31-Mar-25
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	5,066,101	(270,901)	4,795,200
	<b>5,066,101</b>	<b>(270,901)</b>	<b>4,795,200</b>



**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES****a) Charitable company information**

St Vincent de Paul Society (England & Wales) ("the Society" or "the Charity") is a limited company domiciled and incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Allenby House, Rees Way, Bradford BD3 0DZ.

**b) Accounting convention**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. The charity is a public benefit entity for the purposes of FRS 102 and therefore the charity also prepared its financial statements in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (The FRS 102 Charities SORP) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charitable company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost convention, modified by the recognition of investment properties, and financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

**c) Consolidation**

These financial statements consolidate the results of the Society and its wholly-owned subsidiary, The Society of St Vincent de Paul (England and Wales) Trading Limited, on a line by line basis. The Society also holds a controlling interest in the Pen Y Pound House Fund, the David Young's Charity and the TB Hunt Trust. These are included within the group accounts. The results of the charity comprise the results of the National Office, Conferences and Special Works of the Society. A separate statement of financial activities, or income and expenditure account, for the Society itself is not presented because it has taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Society is a member of Revive Leeds CIC, a company limited by guarantee and exercises joint control over the entity via a membership agreement. Revive Leeds CIC is accounted for in the Society's consolidated accounts using the equity method. The Society's share of the profit or loss as well as the Society's share of any reserve movements of Revive Leeds CIC are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they occur.

**d) Going concern**

The Trustees have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis after taking into account future budgets and cash forecasts covering the period of at least 12 months from the date of this report. Individual projects within the Society are largely expected to be self-funding and shop income has continued to perform well during the year ended 31st March 2025. In September 2025 the pension exit value of £3,199,800 was received in the bank to support ongoing cash flow. This, combined with the reserves the charity holds, has enabled the Trustees to conclude that the charity will be able to meet its liabilities as they fall due for at least 12 months following approval of these financial statements. As a result, the Trustees have identified no material uncertainties that cast significant doubt about the ability of the Society to continue as a going concern and so the financial statements continue to be prepared on this basis.

**e) Foreign exchange**

Transactions in currencies other than pound sterling are recorded at the rates of exchange prevailing at the dates of the transactions. At each reporting date, monetary assets and liabilities that are denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rates prevailing at the period end date. Gains and losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities for the period.

**f) Income**

Voluntary income received by way of donations to the Society is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable. Proceeds from the sale of donated goods are recognised in the accounts in the period in which they are realised. Volunteer time is not included in the financial statements.

Grants are recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are receivable.

Income from legacies is accounted for on a receivable basis, and is recognised in full in the financial statements in the period in which entitlement is notified, where there is probability of receipt and where the amount can be measured reliably.

**g) Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Expenditure includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Grants payable are recognised when authorised for payment.

Governance costs relate to compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Expenditure on raising funds relates to the costs incurred by the group and Society in raising funds for the charitable work.

**Allocation of support costs incurred at the Society's administrative centres**

Expenditure is allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, where relevant, the salary, office and premises costs of the administrative centres which represent the charity's support costs are apportioned on the following basis which are an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

Visits & assistance to individuals and families	27%
Shops and furniture stores	26%
Holidays and camps	4%
Residential provision	8%
Twinning	5%
Youth development programme	5%
Support centres	18%
Expenditure on raising funds	4%
	100%

**h) Fixed assets**

Assets are capitalised at cost, as detailed in note 12.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Freehold property	2% straight line
Leasehold property	over the period of the lease
Computer equipment	33% straight line
Furniture and equipment	20% straight line
Motor vehicles and caravans	20% straight line

Land is not depreciated.

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Mixed motive investments are held at cost as this is deemed to be not materially different to fair value. The value is reviewed annually by management for impairment and provision made if appropriate.

**i) Investments**

Investments held as fixed assets are revalued at mid-market value at the balance sheet date. The gains or losses for the period on revaluation or disposal are taken to the statement of financial activities. The Trustees consider short term deposits to be liquid resources.

**j) Assets held for sale**

The charity's mixed movement investments are measured at cost and represent properties held for both financial return and to further the charity's objects.

**k) Stocks**

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is measured on a first in first out basis and includes transport and handling costs. Net realisable value is the price at which stocks can be sold in the normal course of business after allowing for the costs of realisation. Provision is made where necessary for obsolete, slow moving and defective stocks.

**l) Cash**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks and other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of twelve months or less.

**m) Funds**

Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is identified to the fund.

Designated funds are to be used for specified purposes as laid down by the Trustees of the Society.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Endowment funds are funds for which the assets must be held permanently by the Society. Further details of these funds are shown in note 24.



**n) Operating leases**

Rentals payable under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership remain with the lessor, are charged to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they fall due.

**o) Pensions**Defined contribution scheme

The Society operates a stakeholder group personal pension plan. In addition, the Society contributes to the personal pension schemes of a number of employees. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the Society in independently administered funds. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable under the schemes by the Society to the funds. The Society has no liability under the schemes other than for the payment of those contributions.

Defined benefit scheme

Some of the Society's employees are members of the Tyne and Wear Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). The LGPS is a funded scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the Society in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The resulting asset or liability is recognised in the balance sheet. In the case of an asset this is recognised to the extent it is considered recoverable through reduced contributions in the future, or through refunds from the Scheme. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses. The pension exit value of £3,199,800 is shown as a gain on the SOFA in the year ended 31st March 2025 and in Other Debtors as the amount was received in September 2025 (prior to the financial statements being signed).

**p) Financial instruments**

The charitable company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charitable company's balance sheet when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest.

Other financial assets

Other financial assets, including investments in equity instruments which are not subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures, are initially measured at fair value, which is normally the transaction price. Such assets are subsequently carried at fair value and the changes in fair value are recognised in profit or loss, except that investments in equity instruments that are not publicly traded and whose fair values cannot be measured reliably are measured at cost less impairment. Trade debtors, loans and other receivables that have fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market are classified as 'loans and receivables'. Loans and receivables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment.

Interest is recognised by applying the effective interest rate, except for short-term receivables when the recognition of interest would be immaterial. The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a debt instrument and of allocating the interest income over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the debt instrument to the net carrying amount on initial recognition.

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through profit and loss, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date. Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected. The impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

**p) Financial instruments (cont)**Derecognition of financial assets

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire, or when it transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity.

Classification of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the company after deducting all of its liabilities.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including trade and other payables, bank loans, loans from fellow group companies and preference shares that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade payables are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when, and only when, the company's obligations are discharged, cancelled, or they expire.

**q) Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Critical judgements

The following judgements (apart from those involving estimates) have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

The annual depreciation charge for property, plant and equipment is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are re-assessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See note 12 for the carrying amount of the property, plant and equipment and note 1. h) for the useful economic lives for each class of asset.

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	2025	2024
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Members' contributions	389,894	-	-	389,894	369,409
Church collections	313,715	42,430	-	356,145	498,213
Legacies	848,755	235	-	848,990	813,757
Other fundraising activities	329,573	274,756	-	604,329	451,362
Other donations and voluntary grants	4,328,764	528,140	-	4,856,904	4,827,269
	6,210,701	845,561	-	7,056,262	6,960,010
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	2024	
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Total	
	£	£	£	£	
Members' contributions	369,409	-	-	369,409	
Church collections	459,219	38,994	-	498,213	
Legacies	811,445	2,312	-	813,757	
Other fundraising activities	254,765	196,597	-	451,362	
Other donations and voluntary grants	4,238,513	588,756	-	4,827,269	
	6,133,351	826,659	-	6,960,010	

Donations and legacies received covers a number of different charitable activities.

**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	2025	2024
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Trading activities	67,735	-	-	67,735	409,524
Income from national raffle	80,536	-	-	80,536	64,200
	148,271	-	-	148,271	473,724

All the above trading activities comprise unrestricted funds in both periods.

**4. TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR**

This is stated after including the following main grants:

	2025	2024
	£	£
<i>Visits &amp; assistance to individuals &amp; families</i>		
Porta Pia	35,000	35,000
Household Support Fund Grant	130,084	125,000
<i>Shops &amp; furniture stores</i>		
Sheffield City Council – Voluntary Sector Grants Fund	61,299	53,283
<i>Support centres</i>		
Other grants received (Under £10,000)	285,479	386,184
National Lottery (various programmes)	183,470	135,640
National Citizens Advice	140,954	111,720
Wirral Borough Council	89,224	194,147
Social Investment Business (SIB)	57,000	-
Allied Irish Bank (AIB) Grant Funding	50,000	-
Leeds Community Foundation	46,652	25,000
Streetgames	43,761	-
Ministry of Justice – Grand Avenues	34,019	102,057
Knott J TST	30,000	-
Marist Fathers Grant	30,000	-
Assumption Legacy Grant	25,000	-
Barbour Foundation	25,000	-
Waterloo Foundation	25,000	-
Newcastle Community Foundation	24,800	11,200
Chorley BC	23,750	-
Alive in Faith (East Anglia Diocese)	20,000	10,000
Sisters of the Holy Cross Grant	20,000	-
Community Investment Board – Southend	18,000	22,422
Groundwork UK	17,600	-
Hopestead Grant	15,000	-
Albert Hunt SP	14,000	-
Seeking Asylum Fund	12,331	12,331
UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Chorley	11,000	-
B&Q Foundation	10,000	-
Garfield Weston	-	75,000
Charities Trust Grant	-	73,500
Hollyhock Charity	-	65,000
Digital Stations Grant	-	40,000
London North Eastern Railway	-	33,334
Charities Aid Foundation	-	33,200
Advice UK	-	23,175
Veolia Enviromental Trust	-	20,400
Morrisons Foundation	-	10,000
Mercy Project (Sothccio)	-	10,000
Innovation Fund	-	10,000
Primary Health	-	10,000

**5. EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS**

Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	2025	2024
Funds	Funds	Funds	Total	Total



	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	668,839	-	-	668,839	598,419
Other staff and volunteer expenses	18,870	-	-	18,870	40,516
Fundraising expenses	69,786	-	-	69,786	38,594
Trading activities	20,682	-	-	20,682	30,361
Investment managers' fees	6,850	-	-	6,850	13,374
Property expenses	70,348	-	-	70,348	109,346
Office expenses	62,789	-	-	62,789	38,736
Other costs	59,337	-	-	59,337	72,247
Support costs (note 6)	127,751	-	-	127,751	132,628
	<u>1,105,252</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,105,252</u>	<u>1,074,221</u>

All the above expenditure was from unrestricted funds in both periods.

## 6. EXPENDITURE

	Year ended 31 March 2025				
	Staff costs	Grants	Other	Support costs	Total
	(note 8)	(note 9)	direct costs	(note 10)	
	£	£	£	£	
Expenditure on raising funds (note 5)	668,839	-	308,662	127,751	1,105,252
Charitable activities					
Visits & assistance to individuals and families	357,866	-	2,586,013	856,012	3,799,891
Retail	2,648,414	-	1,469,639	829,985	4,948,038
Holidays and camps	-	-	166,613	139,008	305,621
Residential provision	1,605,214	-	765,769	249,478	2,620,461
Community Support Projects	1,927,727	-	879,114	569,438	3,376,279
Social Enterprise Activities	507,183	-	329,885	134,231	971,299
Twinning	66,772	408,084	3,150	149,093	627,099
Youth Development Programme	232,003	-	57,573	152,073	441,649
Total charitable activities	7,345,179	408,084	6,257,756	3,079,318	17,090,336
Support costs	2,042,479	24,461	1,140,128	(3,207,068)	-
	10,056,497	432,545	7,706,546	-	18,195,588

	Year ended 31 March 2024				
	Staff costs	Grants	Other	Support costs	Total
	(note 8)	(note 9)	direct costs	(note 10)	
	£	£	£	£	
Expenditure on raising funds (note 5)	598,420	-	343,173	132,628	1,074,221
Charitable activities					
Visits & assistance to individuals and families	325,920	-	2,670,510	882,931	3,879,361
Retail	2,165,158	-	1,499,193	793,962	4,458,313
Holidays and camps	-	-	380,797	140,321	521,118
Residential provision	1,537,583	-	374,987	241,445	2,154,015
Community Support Projects	1,624,784	-	1,150,378	606,724	3,381,886
Social Enterprise Activities	585,004	-	311,405	143,211	1,039,620
Twinning	44,823	422,243	34,446	155,128	656,640
Youth Programme Development	202,962	-	64,588	155,769	423,319
Total charitable activities	6,486,234	422,243	6,486,304	3,119,493	16,514,272
Support costs	1,998,700	29,415	1,224,004	(3,252,119)	-
	9,083,354	451,658	8,053,481	-	17,588,493

## 7. NET EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR

This is stated after charging:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation	200,327	226,668
Trustees' indemnity insurance	3,470	3,470
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	1,957	3,920
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Statutory audit	39,500	37,900
Operating lease rentals:		
Property	990,652	933,510

During the year 6 (2024: 8) trustees were reimbursed expenses. This totalled £1,957 (2024: £3,920). In addition £Nil (2024: £Nil) was paid on behalf of Trustees directly to third parties. Expenses related to reimbursement for travel and accommodation, subsistence, telephone, postage and stationery and are in relation to their roles as trustees.

In accordance with the articles of association, the Society paid a premium of £3,470 (2024: £3,470) for trustee indemnity insurance to the value of £6 million (2024: £6 million).

8. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

Staff costs were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries and wages	8,774,515	7,902,633
Social security costs	756,042	655,035
Pension contributions	525,940	525,686
	10,056,497	9,083,354

Included in staff costs and paid in the year were redundancy and termination payments totalling £100,207 -25 employees (2024 : £24,030- 4 employees),

The earnings, including pension contribution and employer’s National Insurance contributions, of key management personnel (including the CEO) in 2025 were £216,744 (2024: £213,149). This related to two roles (2024: two).

During the year there were 12 employees who received employment benefits (excluding employer’s pension contributions) of more than £60,000.

- £60,000 - £70,000 - 9 (2024: 5).
- £70,000 - £80,000 - 1 (2024: 3).
- £90,000 - £100,000 - 1 (2024: 0).
- £100,000 - £110,000 - 1 (2024: 2).

The average number of employees (on a full time equivalent basis) during the year was as follows:

	Actual		FTE	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Visits & assistance to individuals and families	26	35	10	17
Retail	133	128	77	73
Residential provision	51	50	36	35
Youth development	8	6	7	6
Community Support Projects	108	105	63	62
Social Enterprise Activities	26	32	16	21
Twinning	5	3	3	1
Fundraising	26	25	20	18
Support staff	34	26	24	21
Governance	13	13	10	9
	430	423	266	263

**9. GRANTS PROGRAMME**

During the year, the Society paid out grants to a number of organisations through the Twinning Programme and directly from the National Society. The majority of the grants were paid to SVP societies in other countries.

	2025	2024
	£	£
SVP India	193,172	204,742
Indian student scholarships programme	25,546	39,670
SVP Sudan	-	20,109
SVP South Sudan	116,908	84,122
SVP Romania	7,245	14,350
SVP Grenada	14,050	25,691
SVP Guyana	3,350	6,634
Payments from disaster fund:		
India	-	3,000
Lebanon	3,000	2,000
Grenada	29,102	-
Romania	5,118	-
Ukraine - refugee assistance	10,593	21,925
Twining projects	-	-
Vincentian Volunteers	-	-
Council General International	24,461	29,415
	<b>432,545</b>	<b>451,658</b>

**10. SUPPORT COSTS**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Staff costs	1,632,593	1,594,274
Other staff and volunteer expenses	120,609	146,711
Office costs	199,551	288,199
Premises costs	216,859	212,808
Bank charges	46,731	48,382
Depreciation	5,900	17,261
Legal and professional fees	59,328	110,220
Other costs	288,703	260,203
Governance costs	636,794	574,061
	<b>3,207,068</b>	<b>3,252,119</b>

Support costs included the following expenditure on governance:	2025	2024
	£	£
Staff costs	409,886	404,426
Other staff and volunteer expenses	19,549	14,027
Auditors fees and expenses:		
Net audit fee (note 7)	39,500	37,900
Disbursements & Other Services	5,765	3,984
Irrecoverable VAT	5,964	7,267
Over / under accruals	-	-
Other professional fees	40,870	44,007
Board expenses	76,242	43,650
Other costs	39,018	18,800
	<b>636,794</b>	<b>574,061</b>



11. TAXATION

The Society is exempt from Corporation Tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes. Available taxable profits are Gift Aided to the Society by The St Vincent de Paul Society (England and Wales) Trading Limited.

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS – The group and the charity

	Freehold property £	Leasehold property and improvements £	Furniture and equipment £	Motor vehicles and caravans £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>					
At the start of the year	3,144,739	1,488,900	1,345,091	273,186	6,251,916
Additions in year	248,932	29,998	83,315	–	362,245
Disposals in year	(200,000)	(128,808)	(294,216)	(4,649)	(627,673)
At the end of the year	3,193,671	1,390,090	1,134,190	268,537	5,986,488
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>					
At the start of the year	352,111	714,704	1,000,297	218,199	2,285,311
Charge for the year	27,581	74,337	85,788	12,621	200,327
Disposals in year	(47,996)	(50,680)	(228,327)	(4,649)	(331,652)
At the end of the year	331,696	738,361	857,758	226,171	2,153,986
<b>NET BOOK VALUE AT 31 March 2025</b>	<b>2,861,975</b>	<b>651,729</b>	<b>276,432</b>	<b>42,366</b>	<b>3,832,502</b>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE AT 31 MARCH 2024</b>	<b>2,792,628</b>	<b>774,196</b>	<b>344,794</b>	<b>54,987</b>	<b>3,966,605</b>

The above Fixed Assets include a net value of £119,616 relating to the subsidiary, SVP Trading Limited (2024: £99,988).

13. MIXED MOTIVE INVESTMENTS

The charity holds £1,413,129 (2024: £1,171,007) as mixed motive investments, which represent Four freehold properties (2024: Three) held for both financial return and to further the charity's objects. These are included in the Freehold Property shown in note 12.

#### 14. INVESTMENTS

	Group 2025 £	Charity 2025 £	Group 2024 £	Charity 2024 £
Market value at the start of the year	2,671,018	1,592,981	2,456,686	1,460,270
Opening Cash Account adjustment	(26,565)	(26,565)	(31,893)	(31,893)
Other Movements	-	-	-	-
Additions at cost	80,997	80,997	143,673	143,673
Disposal at market value	(1,224,592)	(1,224,592)	(140,289)	(140,980)
Realised (losses) / gains	38,785	38,785	27,906	27,951
Unrealised (losses) / gains	(60,226)	(19,811)	188,370	107,395
	<b>1,479,417</b>	<b>441,795</b>	<b>2,644,453</b>	<b>1,566,416</b>
Cash held with investment managers	-	-	26,565	26,565
Total investment portfolio market value	<b>1,479,417</b>	<b>441,795</b>	<b>2,671,018</b>	<b>1,592,981</b>
Historic cost at the year end	-	-	231,115	232,879

All the investments are listed on a recognised stock exchange and are intended to provide an investment return.

Investments representing over 5% by value of the portfolio, as above, comprise:

	Group 2025 £	Charity 2025 £	Group 2024 £	Charity 2024 £
Catholic Fund at CCLA	1,230,404	441,795	1,324,775	491,606

#### 15. RESULTS OF PARENT CHARITY

These accounts do not include a Statement of Financial Activities for the parent charity, as permitted under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006. The relevant figures for the year ended 31 March for the parent charity were:

	2025 £	2024 £
Gross income	15,901,753	15,228,406
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	1,364,133	(1,696,758)

#### 16. INVESTMENTS IN SUBSIDIARIES – CHARITY

The charity has an unlisted investment with a historical cost of £1 representing its 100% shareholding in The St Vincent de Paul Society (England and Wales ) Trading Limited, which is a company registered in England that operates accommodation and sells Christmas cards and other goods. A summary of that company's financial position is set out in note 17.

#### 17. SUBSIDIARY UNDERTAKINGS

The charitable company held a controlling interest in following entities during the year:

- i The Pen-Y-Pound House Fund (a subsidiary charity, number 1053992-1)
- i David Young's Charity (a registered charity, number 238877)
- i The T B Hunt Trust Fund (a registered charity, number 216406)
- i The St Vincent de Paul Society (England and Wales) Trading Limited (company registration number 04373817)

All activities have been consolidated on a line by line basis in the Statement of Financial Activities. A summary of the results of the subsidiaries is shown below:

## 17. SUBSIDIARY UNDERTAKINGS (Continued)

**The Pen-Y-Pound House Fund (Capital and Income)**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Incoming resources	14,443	14,159
Charitable expenditure	-	-
Net outgoing resources for the year	14,443	14,159
Unrealised (losses) / gains	(27,529)	46,575
Net movement in funds	(13,086)	60,734
Funds brought forward	458,918	398,184
<b>Funds carried forward</b>	<b>445,832</b>	<b>458,918</b>

The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds was:

Investments	487,199	514,728
Net current assets	(41,367)	(55,810)
	<b>445,832</b>	<b>458,918</b>
Funds:		
Endowment fund	407,193	434,722
Income fund	38,639	24,196
	<b>445,832</b>	<b>458,918</b>

This is a separate charitable trust controlled by the Society as the Trustees of the Society are the Trustees of the Pen-Y-Pound Fund. The trust's main objective is to further the work of the Roman Catholic Church in relieving the poor of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Cardiff.

**David Young's Charity**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Incoming resources	10,293	11,262
Charitable expenditure	(7,686)	(15,091)
Net outgoing resources for the year	2,607	(3,829)
Unrealised (losses) / gains	4,145	8,065
Realised (losses) / gains	-	(44)
Net movement in funds	6,752	4,192
Funds brought forward	246,596	242,404
<b>Funds carried forward</b>	<b>253,348</b>	<b>246,596</b>

The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds was:

Investments	249,013	244,868
Net current assets	4,335	1,728
	<b>253,348</b>	<b>246,596</b>
Funds:		
Endowment fund	208,102	196,109
Restricted fund	45,246	50,487
	<b>253,348</b>	<b>246,596</b>

David Young's Charity is controlled by the Society as the Society appoints the Trustees of the charity. The figures included in these consolidated accounts are for the year ended 31 March 2025 as this is the date to which the subsidiary prepares their accounts; there have been no material changes in the three months to 31 March 2025. The Trust's main objective is the relief of hardship or distress by making grants of money.

## 17. SUBSIDIARY UNDERTAKINGS (Continued)

## T B Hunt Trust Fund

	2025	2024
	£	£
Incoming resources	8,935	8,759
Charitable expenditure	(8,205)	(7,220)
Net incoming / (outgoing) resources for the year	730	1,539
Unrealised gains	(17,031)	28,814
Net movement in funds	(16,301)	30,353
Funds brought forward	350,012	319,659
<b>Funds carried forward</b>	<b>333,711</b>	<b>350,012</b>
The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds was:		
Investments	301,410	318,441
Current assets	32,301	31,571
	333,711	350,012
Funds:		
Endowment fund	301,399	318,430
Income fund	32,312	31,582
	333,711	350,012

This is a separate charitable trust controlled by the Society as the Trustees of the Society are the Trustees of the T B Hunt Trust Fund. The trust's main objective is the relief of poverty amongst Roman Catholics in the Leicester and Market Harborough areas.

## The St Vincent De Paul Society (England &amp; Wales) Trading Limited

	2025	2024
	£	£
Turnover	300,438	543,476
Cost of sales	(34,940)	(45,731)
Gross profit	265,498	497,745
Administrative expenses	(264,118)	(370,253)
Operating profit for the financial year	1,380	127,492
Interest payable	-	(1,753)
	1,380	125,739
Gift aid to parent undertaking	(108,671)	(34,500)
<b>Net (loss) / profit</b>	<b>(107,291)</b>	<b>91,239</b>
The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds was:		
Fixed Assets	119,616	99,988
Current assets	50,334	157,204
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(152,250)	(132,201)
	17,700	124,991

The trading company began in July 2003 and is based at the Society's National Office. The principal activity during the year was the management of accommodation for temporarily homeless families, sales of Christmas cards, Fairtrade items, retail sale of electrical household appliances and similar items.



**18. INVESTMENTS IN JOINTLY CONTROLLED ENTITIES**

The charity is a member of Revive Leeds CIC, a company limited by guarantee, and jointly controls the entity via a Members' agreement with the other members of the company. This agreement stipulates that profits made are distributed to split evenly. The SVP's share of the assets and liabilities of the jointly controlled entity is 50% during the year.

	2025	2024
	£	£
Value of share in Jointly Controlled Entity – brought forward	119,470	123,429
Share of profit for the year	97,744	104,462
Share of Profit distributed	(62,575)	(108,421)
Valuation carried forward	154,639	119,470

Related party transactions are shown in note 26.

**19. DEBTORS**

	Group	Charity	Group	Charity
	2025	2025	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	191,253	131,422	141,589	133,083
Other debtors	3,233,158	3,233,158	35,445	35,445
Prepayments	459,419	466,951	552,633	544,459
Accrued income	17,688	17,688	50,710	67,744
Other taxation and social security	72,062	70,300	62,086	50,929
Amounts due from subsidiaries	-	297,517	-	320,963
	3,973,580	4,217,036	842,463	1,152,623

All debtors this year and in the prior year are due within one year from the Balance Sheet date.

Amounts due from subsidiaries include a loan of £7,189 (2024: £20,912) to The St Vincent de Paul Society (England and Wales) Trading Limited. Loan repayments are made yearly and the subsidiary accrues interest at a rate of 1% over bank base rate. The subsidiary has given the Society a floating charge over its assets as security.

Other debtors include £3,199,800 pension exit gain from the Tyne & Wear Pension Fund.

**20. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	Group 2025	Charity 2025	Group 2024	Charity 2024
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	446,979	547,578	376,593	414,098
Other creditors	87,082	85,583	76,187	91,459
Other taxation and social security	140,836	140,836	158,591	158,591
Accruals	207,057	201,196	275,675	250,738
Deferred income	211,245	211,245	107,482	107,482
Mortgage on Freehold Property	16,347	16,347	16,347	16,347
	<b>1,109,546</b>	<b>1,202,785</b>	<b>1,010,875</b>	<b>1,038,715</b>

Included within other creditors are outstanding pension contributions of £83,990 (2024: £75,676).

**21. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR**

	Group 2025	Charity 2025	Group 2024	Charity 2024
	£	£	£	£
Mortgage on Freehold Property	622,282	622,282	437,780	437,780
	<b>622,282</b>	<b>622,282</b>	<b>437,780</b>	<b>437,780</b>

The mortgage on the Freehold Property at 12 Alfred Road Cromer is held with the NatWest Bank. The loan amount is £300,000 paid over a 20 year term. The first 10 years are on a Fixed rate at 5.24% and the remaining 10 years at 2.4% over the bank's base rate unless otherwise agreed. The mortgage on the Freehold Property at Newcastle Deaf Centre is held with the NatWest Bank. The loan amount is £270,000 (reduced by a early repayment of £95,000) paid over a 20 year term. The first 10 years are on a Fixed rate at 6.61% and the remaining 10 years at 2.5% over the bank's base rate unless otherwise agreed. The bank has a registered Charge at Companies House dated 5th July 2022 on the property by way of legal mortgage. During the year, an additional long term loan for £198,790 was acquired through Social Investment Business (SIB) and was used to purchase an additional property at Eckersley Road in Fakenham. The term of the loan is 72 months and the interest rate at 7.90% pa with a capital repayment holiday of 12 months from 01 November 2024.

**22. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION SCHEME LIABILITY**

Some of the Society's employees belong to a Local Government Pension Schemes (LGPS): the Tyne and Wear Pension Fund (TWPF)

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit plan with benefits earned up to 31 March 2014 being linked to final salary. Benefits after 31 March 2014 are based on a Career Average Revalued Earnings Scheme. Details of the benefits earned over the period covered by this disclosure are set out in 'The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013' and 'The Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014'.

Funding / Governance Arrangements of the LGPS

Until the date of cessation on 30th March 2025 of being in the scheme, the assets and liabilities were valued on the following basis below, but the exit and post year end crystallization of the surplus has led to recognition within debtors due within one year. The funded nature of the LGPS requires participating employers and its employees to pay contributions into the Fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pension liabilities with investment assets. Information on the framework for calculating contributions to be paid is set out in LGPS Regulations 2013 and the Fund's Funding Strategy Statement. The last actuarial valuation was at 31 March 2022 and the contributions to be paid until 31 March 2025 resulting from that valuation are set out in the Fund's Rates and Adjustment Certificate.

The Fund Administering Authority responsible for the governance of the Fund is South Tyneside.

Assets

The assets allocated to the Employer in the Fund are notional and are assumed to be invested in line with the investments of the Fund for the purposes of calculating the return to be applied to those notional assets over the accounting period. The Fund is large and holds a significant proportion of its assets in liquid investments. As a consequence there will be no significant restriction on realising assets if a large payment is required to be paid from the fund in relation to an employer's liabilities. The assets are invested in a diversified spread of investments and the approximate split of assets for the fund as a whole (based on data supplied by the Administering Authority) is shown in the disclosures.

The Administering Authority may invest a small proportion of the Fund's investments in the assets of some of the employers participating in the Fund if it forms part of their balanced investment strategy.

Risks associated with the Fund in relation to accounting

**Asset volatility**

The liabilities used for accounting purposes are calculated using a discount rate set with reference to corporate bond yields. If assets underperform this yield this will create a deficit in the accounts. The Fund holds a significant proportion of growth assets which, while expected to outperform corporate bonds in the long term, creates volatility and risk in the short term in relation to the accounting figures.

## 22. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION SCHEME LIABILITY (CONTINUED)

### Changes in Bond Yield

A decrease in corporate bond yields will increase the value placed on the liabilities for accounting purposes although this will be marginally offset by the increase in the assets as a result.

### Inflation Risk

The majority of the pension liabilities are linked to either pay or price inflation. Higher inflation expectations will lead to a higher liability value. The assets are either unaffected or loosely correlated with inflation meaning that an increase in inflation will increase the deficit.

### Life expectancy

The majority of the Fund's obligations are to provide benefits for the life of the member following retirement, so increases in life expectancy will result in an increase in the liabilities.

### Exiting employers

Employers who leave the Fund (or their guarantor) may have to make an exit payment to meet any shortfall in assets against their pension liabilities. If the employer (or guarantor) is not able to meet this exit payment the liability may in certain circumstances fall on other employers in the Fund. Further the assets at exit in respect of 'orphan liabilities' may, in retrospect, not be sufficient to meet the liabilities. This risk may fall on other employers. 'Orphan liabilities' are currently a small proportion of the overall liabilities in the Fund.

Principal actuarial assumptions	TWPF	
	2025	2024
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.8%	4.8%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.5%	2.6%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.5%	2.6%
Pension accounts revaluation rate	2.5%	2.6%
Rate of increase in salaries	4.0%	4.1%

The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates.

The assumed remaining life expectations on retirement age 65 are:

	TWPF	
	2025	2024
<u>Retiring today:</u>		
Males	20.9	21.0
Females	24.1	24.2
<u>Retiring in 20 years:</u>		
Males	21.8	22.3
Females	25.2	25.6

The Society's share of the assets in the scheme were:

	TWPF	
	2025	2024
	%	%
Equities	48.1%	50.6%
Properties	11.1%	10.4%
Government bonds	1.1%	1.3%
Corporate bonds	18.1%	19.5%
Multi Asset Credit	4.5%	4.6%
Cash	1.8%	0.7%
Other	15.3%	12.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

The actual return on scheme assets is £294,000, (2024: (£427,000)).



**22. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION SCHEME LIABILITY (CONTINUED)****Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Current service cost	(160,000)	(222,000)
Interest income	-	-
Interest expense	5,000	5,000
<b>Total amount recognised in the SoFA</b>	<b>(155,000)</b>	<b>(217,000)</b>

**Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations were as follows:**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Brought forward	4,805,000	4,749,000
Funds brought in on transfer of employment	-	-
Current service cost	160,000	222,000
Interest expense	225,000	219,000
Employee contributions	41,000	53,000
Actuarial gain	(838,000)	(192,000)
Benefits paid	(267,000)	(246,000)
<b>Carried forward</b>	<b>4,126,000</b>	<b>4,805,000</b>

**Changes in the fair value of Society's share of scheme assets:**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Brought forward	7,702,000	7,209,000
Interest income	369,000	340,000
Remeasurement gains/(losses) on assets	(75,000)	87,000
Employer contributions	202,000	259,000
Employee contributions	41,000	53,000
Benefits paid	(267,000)	(246,000)
<b>Carried forward</b>	<b>7,972,000</b>	<b>7,702,000</b>

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fair value of Scheme Assets	7,972,000	7,702,000
Present value of defined benefit obligations	(4,126,000)	(4,805,000)
Restriction on recognition of scheme assets	(3,846,000)	(2,897,000)
<b>Defined benefit pension scheme (liability)/asset</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

## 23. ANALYSIS OF GROUP NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Year Ended 31 March 2025			
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Tangible fixed assets</b>	<b>3,832,502</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,832,502</b>
<b>Investments</b>	<b>371,040</b>	<b>254,071</b>	<b>1,008,945</b>	<b>1,634,056</b>
<b>Net current assets</b>	<b>6,469,085</b>	<b>1,105,281</b>	<b>97,135</b>	<b>7,671,501</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than 1 year</b>	<b>(622,282)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(622,282)</b>
<b>Pension liability</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net assets at end of the year</b>	<b>10,050,345</b>	<b>1,359,352</b>	<b>1,106,080</b>	<b>12,515,777</b>

	Year Ended 31 March 2024			
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Tangible fixed assets</b>	<b>3,966,605</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,966,605</b>
<b>Investments</b>	<b>1,474,624</b>	<b>254,071</b>	<b>1,061,793</b>	<b>2,790,488</b>
<b>Net current assets</b>	<b>3,482,683</b>	<b>1,355,657</b>	<b>88,747</b>	<b>4,927,087</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than 1 year</b>	<b>(437,780)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(437,780)</b>
<b>Pension liability</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net assets at end of the year</b>	<b>8,486,132</b>	<b>1,609,728</b>	<b>1,150,540</b>	<b>11,246,400</b>

## 24. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At the start of the year £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and (losses) £	At the end of the year £
<b>Endowment funds:</b>						
<b>Subsidiaries (note 17):</b>						
David Young's Charity	196,109	-	-	8,387	3,606	208,102
Pen-Y-Pound House capital fund	434,722	-	-	-	(27,529)	407,193
TB Hunt Trust capital fund	318,430	-	-	-	(17,031)	301,399
<b>Charity:</b>						
The Estate of Francis Thompson	201,279	-	-	-	(11,893)	189,386
<b>Total endowment funds</b>	<b>1,150,540</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,387</b>	<b>(52,847)</b>	<b>1,106,080</b>
				-	-	
<b>Restricted funds:</b>						
<b>Subsidiaries (note 17):</b>						
David Young's Charity	49,550	10,293	(7,686)	(8,387)	539	44,309
Pen-Y-Pound House income fund	24,196	14,443	-	-	-	38,639
TB Hunt Trust income fund	31,582	8,935	(8,205)	-	-	32,312
<b>Charity:</b>						
	-					-
Approved premises, Newcastle Pension Fund	316,000	-	-	(269,000)	(47,000)	-
Community Grant	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revive Leeds	110,929	-	-	(54,034)	97,744	154,639
Twinning	295,755	330,897	(247,239)		-	379,413
Youth Hollyhock Fund	54,345	-	(37,182)	-	-	17,163
Special restricted funds	495,898	-	(171,284)	-	-	324,614
Other restricted funds	231,473	785,702	(648,314)	(598)	-	368,263
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>1,609,728</b>	<b>1,150,270</b>	<b>(1,119,910)</b>	<b>(332,019)</b>	<b>51,283</b>	<b>1,359,352</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>						
<i>Designated funds:</i>						
AP Building Fund	115,219	-	-	(115,219)	-	-
Conference funds	3,159,986	2,724,349	(2,035,260)	(1,536,476)	(3,820)	2,308,779
CSP Project Fund	88,692	-	-	(88,692)	-	-
Fixed asset fund	520,474	-	(167,047)	-	-	353,427
National Shops Start up Funds	74,220	-	-	(74,220)	-	-
Revive Distribution	116,962	-	-	(116,962)		-
Shops Development Fund (Covid Grants)	68,894			(9,214)		59,680
Social Enterprise Retained Income Fund	45,526	-	-	(45,526)	-	-
St Jude's Sales Proceeds	153,664	-		(153,664)	-	-
Twinning	363,374	204,433	(230,767)		-	337,040
<i>Special designated funds</i>						
Central Council Projects Fund	515,733	-	-	(186,063)	-	329,670
Cost of Living Fund	51,596	11,171	-	(16,424)		46,343
Innovation Fund	104,618		(2,364)	(102,254)		-
<i>Total Special designated funds</i>	<b>671,947</b>	11,171	(2,364)	(304,741)	-	376,013
Other designated funds	402,000	350	-	(271,094)	-	131,256
<b>Total designated funds</b>	<b>5,780,958</b>	<b>2,940,303</b>	<b>(2,435,438)</b>	<b>(2,715,808)</b>	<b>(3,820)</b>	<b>3,566,195</b>
Revaluation reserve	625,477	-	-	-	-	625,477
General funds	2,079,697	12,145,289	(14,640,241)	3,039,440	3,234,488	5,858,673
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>8,486,132</b>	<b>15,085,592</b>	<b>(17,075,679)</b>	<b>323,632</b>	<b>3,230,668</b>	<b>10,050,345</b>

<b>11,246,400</b>	<b>16,235,862</b>	<b>(18,195,589)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,229,104</b>	<b>12,515,777</b>
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Details concerning the purposes of endowment, restricted and designated funds can be found on the following pages.



**24. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (continued)**

Prior year movement in funds	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and (losses) £	At 31 March 2024 £
<b>Endowment funds:</b>						
<b>Subsidiaries (note 17):</b>						
David Young's Charity	188,088	-	-	-	8,021	<b>196,109</b>
Pen-Y-Pound House capital fund	388,147	-	-	-	46,575	<b>434,722</b>
TB Hunt Trust capital fund	289,616	-	-	-	28,814	<b>318,430</b>
<b>Charity:</b>						
The Estate of Francis Thompson	181,158	-	-	-	20,121	<b>201,279</b>
<b>Total endowment funds</b>	<b>1,047,009</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>103,531</b>	<b>1,150,540</b>
<b>Restricted funds:</b>						
<b>Subsidiaries (note 17):</b>						
David Young's Charity	53,379	11,262	(15,091)	-		49,550
Pen-Y-Pound House income fund	10,037	14,159	-	-	-	24,196
TB Hunt Trust income fund	30,043	8,759	(7,220)	-	-	31,582
<b>Charity:</b>						
Approved premises, Newcastle	358,000	-	-	-	(42,000)	316,000
Community Grant	25,000	-	-	(25,000)	-	-
Restricted legacies	1,679,266		-	(1,679,266)	-	-
Revive Leeds	110,929	-	-	-	-	110,929
Twinning	263,583	390,200	(358,028)	-	-	295,755
Youth Hollyhock fund	-	-	-	54,345	-	54,345
Special restricted funds	648,519	-	-	(152,621)	-	495,898
Other restricted funds	176,130	673,179	(617,836)		-	231,473
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>3,354,886</b>	<b>1,097,559</b>	<b>(998,175)</b>	<b>(1,802,542)</b>	<b>(42,000)</b>	<b>1,609,728</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>		-	-			
<i>Designated funds:</i>						
AP Building Fund	174,356	-	-	(59,137)	-	115,219
Conference funds	2,914,184	2,409,972	(2,162,451)	-	(1,719)	3,159,986
CSP Project Fund	193,741	-	-	(105,049)	-	88,692
Fixed asset fund	597,439	-	(168,154)	-	91,189	520,474
National Shops Start up Funds	51,866	-	-	22,354	-	74,220
Revive Distribution	12,500	-	-	-	104,462	116,962
Shops Development Fund (Covid Grants)	97,938			(29,044)		68,894
Social Enterprise Retained Income Fund	149,757	-	-	(104,231)	-	45,526
St Jude's Sales Proceeds	327,908	-		(174,244)	-	153,664
Twinning	275,561	231,297	(143,484)	-	-	363,374
<i>Special designated funds</i>						
Central Council Projects Fund	706,579	-	-	(190,846)	-	515,733
Cost of Living Fund	282,117	23,598	(675)	(253,444)		51,596
Innovation Fund	117,215		(394)	(12,203)		104,618
<i>Total Special designated funds</i>	<i>1,105,911</i>	<i>23,598</i>	<i>(1,069)</i>	<i>(456,493)</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>671,947</i>
Other designated funds	480,272	1,300	-	(79,572)	-	402,000

Total designated funds	<b>6,381,433</b>	<b>2,666,167</b>	<b>(2,475,158)</b>	<b>(985,416)</b>	<b>193,932</b>	<b>5,780,958</b>
Revaluation reserve	625,477	-	-	-	-	625,477
General funds	1,351,793	12,033,775	(14,115,160)	2,787,958	21,331	2,079,697
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>8,358,703</b>	<b>14,699,942</b>	<b>(16,590,318)</b>	<b>1,802,542</b>	<b>215,263</b>	<b>8,486,132</b>
	<b>12,760,598</b>	<b>15,797,501</b>	<b>(17,588,493)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>276,794</b>	<b>11,246,400</b>
		-				

Details concerning the purposes of endowment, restricted and designated funds can be found on the following pages.

**24. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (continued)****Purposes of endowment funds****David Young's Charity**

This is a separate charitable trust controlled by the Society. The Trustees' main objective through this endowment fund is to alleviate poverty amongst Catholics. SVP members are eligible to apply to this fund.

**Pen-Y-Pound House capital fund**

This is a separate charitable trust controlled by the Society. The Trustees' main objective is to further the work of the Roman Catholic Church in relieving the poor of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Cardiff. The fund comprises a permanent endowment fund which is invested on a recognised stock exchange to provide income for furthering the Trust's objectives.

**T B Hunt Capital Fund**

This is a permanent endowment fund arising from a legacy. The terms of the legacy are to invest the fund in quoted investments on a recognised stock exchange to provide an income for the T B Hunt Trust Fund.

**The Estate of Francis Thompson**

This is a permanent endowment fund arising from a legacy. The terms of the legacy are to invest the fund in quoted investments on a recognised stock exchange to provide an income for the Christ the King Conference in Wavertree, Liverpool. The Francis Thompson Income Fund is included in Other Restricted Funds.

**Purposes of restricted funds****David Young's Charity**

This is a separate charitable trust controlled by the Society. The Trustees' main objective is to alleviate poverty amongst Catholics. SVP members and staff are eligible to benefit from this fund.

**Pen-Y-Pound House Income fund**

This fund is to be spent in relieving the poor of Cardiff.

**TB Hunt Trust**

This is a separate charitable trust controlled by the Society. The Trustees' main objective is to provide help to those in need in the Leicester and Market Harborough areas. The TB Hunt Fund was established with funds left to the SVP by Thomas Bernard Hunt, who died in 1928. His desire was to alleviate poverty among the Catholic poor in the areas of Leicester and Market Harborough. The SVP distributes grants on a quarterly basis to people in need.

**Approved premises, Newcastle**

This represents Ozanam House, St Christopher's Hostel with the approved premises pension fund, which are approved premises funded with the help of Ministry of Justice grants. The fund is neutral as a result of the pension surplus of £Nil (2024:surplus of £Nil) on the Tyne and Wear pension fund as described in note 22. The Ministry of Justice contract ceased on 30th March 2025 and a pension crystallisation surplus amounted to £3,199,800 which was paid in September 2025 as the final settlement.

**Furniture stores**

This fund is represented by properties acquired with the assistance of Community Fund grants and donations to provide low cost furniture to those in need.

**Restricted legacies**

The fund transfers above reflect a reallocation of £Nil (2024: £1,679,266) which, upon review during the year, relate to unrestricted funds.

**Revive Leeds**

Revive Leeds is set up as a Community Interest Company in which we hold a 50% interest. The project generates income by selling items donated from household waste sites. These items have been saved from going into landfill. This restricted fund represents the Society's share of net assets.

**Twinning**

This represents funds contributed mainly by Conferences specifically to support the activities of the Society's sister organisations overseas.

**24. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (continued)****Special restricted funds**

The balance at 31st March 2025 comprises:

**Appleton Fund**

This is mainly used for the development of South Lancashire Projects.

**Other restricted funds**

Other restricted funds cover various projects for people in need including local restricted funds held by Conferences and Councils.

**Purposes of designated funds**

Generally, designated funds are spent and replenished in a year. Members are encouraged to apply for use of these funds.

**AP Building Fund**

Fund for building improvement works at the Approved Premises projects in Newcastle.

**Conference Funds**

This fund represents the reserves of the Society that are delegated to the control of Conferences. Each Conference has a bank account and most will also have small petty cash balances. These funds belong to the Society as a whole, and can be called upon by the Trustees if required, but the Society prefers to manage this on a voluntary and consultative basis. Conferences manage their own fundraising and the distribution of the funds under their control within the rules and guidance set out by the Society. Conferences report back their financial activity on a quarterly basis. We encourage Conferences to put their funds to good use and discourage the holding of funds which are surplus to local requirements. We expect funds to be turned over and replenished within one year. Conferences with funds in excess of their requirements are urged to transfer any excess to another part of the Society where the need is greater.

In addition to the funds held directly by Conferences, there are also funds held nationally on behalf of Conferences. This is typically legacies left to the SVP that reference a particular Conference. We ask all Conferences that are mentioned in a legacy to suggest a plan for how they intend to spend the money. We expect that plan to involve spending the legacy in full within 5 years. The plans are subject to review and approval by the Executive Committee or the Board, depending on the size of the legacy. If a Conference does not come up with an acceptable plan then the legacy will be spent by the Society in accordance with the wishes of the benefactor.

**CSP Project Fund**

This fund is primarily to seed-fund projects in existing Community Support Projects.

**Fixed Asset Fund**

This fund shows the amount of the Society's funds invested in its unrestricted fixed assets net of any property revaluations. Depreciation relating to fixed assets is charged to the fund on an annual basis.

**National Shops Start up Funds**

Funded from a legacy, this fund is used to pay for set up costs for new National SVP shops.

**Revive Distribution**

Revive Leeds is set up as a Community Interest Company in which we hold a 50% interest. The project generates income by selling items donated from household waste sites. These items have been saved from going into landfill. This designated fund represents the balance (after restricted) of the Society's share of net assets.

**Shops Development Fund (Covid Grants)**

Funded from grants, this fund is for building improvement works in SVP shops

**Social Enterprise Retained Income Fund**

This fund is for seed-funding for new Social Enterprise projects.

**St Jude's Sales Proceeds**

This fund is primarily being used for Membership Support Officers where the local central council does not have sufficient funds themselves.

**Twinning**

This represents funds contributed mainly by Conferences specifically to support the activities of the twinning programme.



24. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (continued)

Special designated funds

These comprise a number of funds to which Conferences can contribute. Applications for grants can be made by Conferences to any of the funds with the exception of the Spiritual Formation fund. The Society expects to spend the current balances within five years. The funds are:

**Central Council Projects Fund:** Some central councils have access to this fund, to be spent on projects in their local area.

**Cost of Living Fund:** Members can apply to this fund for help with beneficiary support.

**Innovation Fund:** this fund is available for members who would like to start a new, innovative project in their local area.

Other designated funds

Other designated funds cover various projects for people in need. Members can apply to a special fund and guardians award grants according to the aims of the fund.

**25. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS**

The group had total commitments at the year end under operating leases expiring as follows:

	2025 land and buildings £	2024 land and buildings £
Within 1 year	926,648	687,925
2-5 years	2,205,140	2,046,456
over 5 years	1,853,920	1,701,170
	<b>4,985,708</b>	<b>4,435,551</b>

**26. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Helen O'Shea is a trustee of Porta Pia and David Young's Charity. The Charity received restricted grant income from Porta Pia of £35,000 (2024 - £35,000)

The total amount of donations from Trustees without any conditions attached amounted to £3,790 during the year (2024 - £3,640).

SVP Trading (note 17) - Income received by the Charity amounted to £174,648 (2024 - £116,952). Expenditure by the Charity amounted to £141,328 (2024 - £162,111). Internal recharges by the Charity amounted to £18,599 (2024 - £18,056). Amount due to group undertakings amounted to : £146,639 (2024 - £64,790)

Revive CIC is a related party as it is a Jointly Controlled Entity as detailed in note 18. During the year, the Society was entitled to a distribution from Revive CIC of £97,744 (2024: £62,575) as the agreement states all profits must be distributed evenly between the member charities. This amount was outstanding at the year end.

TB Hunt Trust Fund

The trust fund received dividends of £8,935 (2024 - £8,759) during the year.

There were no outstanding creditor or debtor balances at the year end.

**27. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS**

There were no capital commitments at the year end.

**28. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

	Group 2025 £	Charity 2025 £	Group 2024 £	Charity 2024 £
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	3,514,161	3,364,580	289,830	276,255
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	741,118	834,357	728,455	756,295

**29. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS**

On 01 April 2025 the assets and liabilities of Hopeworx was transferred to the charity.

Hopeworx is a non for profit community enterprise and charity trading as a community furniture project in Rayleigh.

**30. DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS**

On 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025 the contract with Minister of Justice (MOJ) ceased and was transferred to a new provider.

The discontinued operations relate to St Christopher's and Ozanam House in Newcastle.

## 31. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	2024	2023
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
Note		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>						
Donations and legacies	2	6,133,351	826,659	-	6,960,010	6,138,642
Other trading activities	3	473,724	-	-	473,724	172,349
Income from investments		208,206	34,180	-	242,386	255,070
Income from charitable activities:			-		-	
Retail Income		4,079,979	-	-	4,079,979	3,921,447
Holidays and camps		177,452	-	-	177,452	155,865
Residential provision		2,550,492	-	-	2,550,492	2,341,979
Community Support Projects		185,396	236,720	-	422,116	349,434
Social Enterprise Activities		638,951	-	-	638,951	638,573
Youth development		22,281	-	-	22,281	22,412
Other income		230,110	-	-	230,110	226,958
<b>Total income</b>	4	<b>14,699,942</b>	<b>1,097,559</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,797,501</b>	<b>14,222,729</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Expenditure on raising funds	5	1,074,221	-	-	1,074,221	766,054
Expenditure on charitable activities:						
Visits & assistance to individuals and families		3,475,934	403,427	-	3,879,361	3,585,304
Retail		4,458,313	-	-	4,458,313	3,819,343
Holidays and camps		521,118	-	-	521,118	446,156
Residential provision		2,154,015	-	-	2,154,015	2,362,569
Community Support Projects		3,145,166	236,720	-	3,381,886	2,285,906
Social Enterprise Activities		1,039,620	-	-	1,039,620	898,486
Youth Development Programme		423,319	-	-	423,319	347,100
Twinning		298,612	358,028	-	656,640	770,281
<b>Total expenditure</b>	6	<b>16,590,318</b>	<b>998,175</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,588,493</b>	<b>15,281,199</b>
<b>Net (losses)/gains on investments</b>	14	<b>110,801</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>103,531</b>	<b>214,332</b>	<b>(188,340)</b>
<b>Share of (loss)/profit in jointly controlled entities</b>	18	<b>104,462</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>104,462</b>	<b>(12,840)</b>
<b>Net (expenditure) / income</b>	7	<b>(1,675,113)</b>	<b>99,384</b>	<b>103,531</b>	<b>(1,472,198)</b>	<b>(1,259,650)</b>
INTERCOMPANY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE						
			-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	23	13,276	(13,276)	-	-	-
Actuarial gains / (losses) on defined benefit pension scheme	22	-	(42,000)	-	(42,000)	215,000
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(1,661,837)</b>	<b>44,108</b>	<b>103,531</b>	<b>(1,514,198)</b>	<b>(1,044,650)</b>
<b>Funds at the start of the year</b>	23	<b>8,358,703</b>	<b>3,354,886</b>	<b>1,047,009</b>	<b>12,760,598</b>	<b>13,805,248</b>
<b>Funds at the end of the year</b>	23	<b>6,696,866</b>	<b>3,398,994</b>	<b>1,150,540</b>	<b>11,246,400</b>	<b>12,760,598</b>

# LEGAL ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

## Status

The St Vincent de Paul Society (England & Wales) is a charitable company limited by guarantee incorporated on 13 March 1996 and registered as a charity on 25 March 1996.

## Governing document

The St Vincent de Paul Society was established under a memorandum of association which established the objects and powers of the organisation and is governed under its articles of association revised and adopted by Special Resolution on 2 August 2019.

Company Number: 3174679

Charity Number: 1053992

Registered and Principal Office:

Allenby House, Rees Way, Bradford, BD3 0DZ

## Senior Management Team

Chief Executive Officer: Kate Nightingale

Director of Finance: Chris Lucas

Director of Governance: Beverley Whittaker

Director of Membership Services Sarah Barber

Director of Retail, Trading and Social Enterprise: Helen Voyce

Director of Internal & External Affairs: Timothy O'Sullivan

## Patrons

Cardinal Vincent Nichols

Sir John Battle

## Auditors

Saffery LLP

10 Wellington Place

Leeds LS1 4AP

## Bankers

National Westminster Bank plc

250 Bishopsgate

London EC2M 4AA

## Solicitors

VWV

24 King William Street

London EC4R 9AT

## Investment Advisers

Rathbones (Incorporating Investec Wealth & Investment (UK))

2 Castlefield Court

Church Street

Reigate Surrey RH2 0AH

CCLA

Senator House

85 Queen Victoria St

London EC4V 4ET