

Company Number: 06560738

Charity Number: 1124616

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DORKING

ANNUAL REPORT

31 DECEMBER 2024

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

The trustees present their report and the financial statements of Churches Together in Dorking ("the charity") for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the financial statements and comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the charitable company, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**Charitable objectives**

The Charity's objects are to develop the work of the Christian church in Dorking and the surrounding area by the advancement of the Christian religion; relief of poverty, suffering, sickness and distress, the advancement of education and other such activities as are charitable and in accordance with English Law.

Charitable activities

The charity's principal activity in pursuit of its charitable objectives is to act as a meeting point for local churches and their representatives to work together on specific projects and coordinate joint worship events. There are currently 15 Christian member organizations. A key activity has been the operation of the Foodbank. We also collect for a Fuel Fund to assist households having difficulty paying fuel bills. The charity helped the local authorities distribute the Household Support Fund allocated to them. The Methodist church no longer meets in Dorking, but the Dorking and Horsham Methodist Circuit have now taken over running the Christian Centre. The foodbank uses the Christian Centre café as its Distribution Centre.

Foodbank

The Dorking Area Foodbank supports anyone in Dorking and the surrounding villages who, for whatever reason, have reached a financial crisis point and cannot afford to feed themselves. It's an organic community project with local people giving food, money, and their time to help other local people in need. The foodbank is entrusted to manage and coordinate these valuable and generous resources promptly, efficiently, and responsibly and operates under an agreement with The Trussell Trust.

Of the 31.1 tonnes of food donated to us and supplemented by purchases by us in 2024, approximately two thirds were distributed via our twice-weekly foodbank sessions at the Christian Centre, with the remainder distributed through other outreach activities throughout the community. Our activities have continued to be particularly challenging this year for the Foodbank, which has strived to be creative and supportive in its activities to support families who have suffered hardships because of the growing cost of living crisis. Initiatives have included Christmas treat bags for each Foodbank client, hampers to another local charity, BESOM, 'Holiday Hunger' boost food bags, emergency food bags and breakfast bags for distribution by schools. We also provide fresh produce (including cheese and eggs) at the distribution centre in addition to the tinned and dried food already provided. This is proving very popular with our clients.

The foodbank currently works with 93 referral agencies. Our message to the referral agencies has always been not to delay in sending a client to the foodbank if they have any practical challenges in issuing a food voucher.

When the Churches of Dorking Housing Association Ltd closed in December 2024, they gave the ground lease on two flats at 24 Howard Road to Churches Together in Dorking, and this benefits the foodbank.

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Fuel Fund

The Fuel fund supports anyone in Dorking and the surrounding villages who, for whatever reason, have reached a financial crisis point and cannot afford fuel. It is largely supported by the government Household Support Fund supplemented by those who donate their Winter Fuel Allowance.

These funds are distributed through the foodbank.

Household Support Fund

Grants to alleviate hardship particularly in the winter and support households in need of essentials were received and were distributed by the Foodbank team. Among these grants received in the year were £55,500 from Mole Valley District Council and Surrey County Council. The various uses they were put to included buying school uniforms and food and providing help with energy and water bills.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**Food parcels distributed**

In the year to 31 December 2024, a total of 3,483 people were fed, of which 1,956 were adults and 1,527 were children. In the year to 31 December 2023, 3,235 people were fed, of which 1889 were adults and 1,346 were children.

School holiday support – 791 food bags distributed to families in the year to 31 December 2024 including 266 at Christmas 2024

Number of **referral agencies** (who can issue vouchers for the foodbank) - 93.

Number of **current volunteers** – 83

Fuel assistance – We continue to work with Energy Manage to deliver managed support for clients with their fuel bills. From the launch of the new project in May 2024 until 31 December 2024 over 50 clients have been supported to get into a better position with their electricity and gas bills with over £17,000 of debt tackled.

FINANCIAL REVIEW**Financial results of activities and events**

The activities of the charity generated total income of £110,346 (2023 £184,632) and its total expenditure amounted to £104,700 (2023 £137,092). The resulting surplus of £5,646 (2023 £47,540) has been added to charity funds.

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Reserves policy

The trustees recognise the need to retain reserves to ensure the long-term and efficient running of the Dorking Area Foodbank. They have carried out a review of the key financial risks for the charity and have identified three main issues:

- a) Potential loss of the use of the warehouse - in May 2024, the Foodbank moved into a warehouse provided by Mole Valley District Council on a licence at a peppercorn rent. This licence can be terminated with three months' notice. If the Foodbank was asked to leave this warehouse, it would be necessary to obtain alternative space in Dorking for the warehouse and office, however, there are few affordable options available locally.
- b) Reduction in financial and food donations - We have seen reductions in both financial donations and donations of food over the last few years, since a peak in awareness of the activity of foodbanks during and immediately after the Covid-19 pandemic. The Trussell Trust has recognised that this reduction is unlikely to reverse, and donations are likely to revert to pre-pandemic levels. We have also benefited from donations from Mole Valley District Council and Surrey County Council for the last few years. It is not certain that these will continue, given the likely restructuring of local government.
- c) On-going need for the Foodbank - the Trussell Trust have advised us to expect continuing need from our clients due to the "cost of living crisis" with increased prices for essentials including food and utilities and no increase in income.

The trustees consider that the reserves held by the charity at the end of 2024 are adequate to address these risks.

Going concern

The trustees have reviewed the financial forecasts for the charity and have considered its anticipated income and expenditure commitments for a period of twelve months from the date of approval of this trustees' annual report. The trustees believe that the charity has adequate resources and the reserves needed to operate for at least the next twelve months and to meet its liabilities. The trustees therefore continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The trustees regularly review the risks to which the charity might be exposed, safeguarding and health and safety, and risks which are covered by insurance. The most serious risk is that the charity fails to secure sufficient funds to support its activities.

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**Status and History**

Churches Together in Dorking is a registered charity, and a company limited by guarantee, not having share capital. Every member undertakes to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of the charity being wound-up during the period of membership, or within one year thereafter.

Churches Together in Dorking (originally known as Churches Together in Dorking Limited) was incorporated on 9 April 2008 and became a registered charity on 20 June 2008. The charity is governed by the rules and regulations set down in its company Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 9 April 2008.

Method of Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association sets out how trustees are to be appointed.

Trustees' Responsibilities in the Preparation of Financial Statements

The trustees (who are also the directors of Churches Together in Dorking for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law, the trustees are preparing the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice and applicable law).

Under company law, the trustees must not approve financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing those 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.
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable UK 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 adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity 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 charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

During 2024 CTD continued to take advantage of the higher interest rate paid to a deposit account with CAF Bank. Most of our money was transferred to this account, leaving a smaller amount in the current account for day-to-day transactions.

Independent Examiner

David Bassett FCCA, as the charity's independent examiner, has indicated his willingness to continue as the Charity's independent examiner.

Statement as to Disclosure of Information to the Independent Examiner

The trustees and directors at the date of approval of this trustees' annual report confirm that so far as each of them is aware, there is no relevant information of which the independent examiner is unaware, and the trustees and

These unaudited financial statements have been subjected to independent examination. See report on page 7

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directors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of that information.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The trustees of the charity, who are also the directors of the company, have held office throughout the year except as where stated. The Trustees and directors are as follows: -

Rosemary Elias (Chair)
Nicola Freeman (from 15 December 2023)
Wayne Kitcat (Secretary)
Justine Ryan (from 15 December 2023)
Paul Studley (from 8 April 2025)

The principal address of the charity and the registered office of the company is: The Presbytery, 2, Falkland Grove, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 3DL.

The charity is registered under the charity number 1124616.

The company is incorporated with the company registration number 06560738.

The trustees have made the following appointment:

Independent Examiner: David Bassett, Tamar, Harrow Road East, Dorking, RH4 2AX.

Treasurer: David Wells. (until 31 December 2024)
Catherine Matthews, (With effect from 1 January 2025)

Management: Day to day management of the operation of the Dorking Area Foodbank is undertaken by Katy Harris at the Food Bank Office, The Christian Centre, Church Street, Dorking. RH4 1DW

Bank: CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ.

EXEMPTIONS FROM DISCLOSURE

No exemptions from the disclosure requirements applicable to a small charity have been taken in this trustees' annual report.

INVESTMENTS HELD

Ground lease on flats at 24 Howard Road, Dorking. No valuation has been obtained of this holding.

FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF OTHERS

The charity maintains restricted funds to deal with incoming resources that are earmarked for a particular purpose by donors and other funders. The Charity does not hold funds as a custodian trustee on behalf of third parties.

APPROVAL OF TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

This report was approved by the trustees on 25th August 2025, and was signed for and on behalf of the board by

Wayne Paul Kitcat Trustee

..... 25/8/2025

These unaudited financial statements have been subjected to independent examination. See report on page 7

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DORKING

I report on the financial statements of Churches Together in Dorking (Charity No. 1124616; Company No. 06560738) for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 8 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity trustees (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement


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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- the accounts accord with such records; and
- the accounts comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; and
- the accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102)

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



David Bassett FCCA

Tamar

Harrow Road East

Dorking

Date: 27/8/2025

These unaudited financial statements have been subjected to independent examination. See report on page 7

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
		2024	2024	2024	2023
INCOME:	Notes	£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies		1,020	50,023	51,043	124,322
Local authority grants		0	55,500	55,500	60,310
Investment income	6.5	0	3,803	3,803	0
TOTAL INCOME	2	1,020	109,326	110,346	184,632
EXPENDITURE:					
Charitable Activities	3	60	104,640	104,700	137,092
NET INCOME AND NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		960	4,686	5,646	47,540
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Fund balances brought forward		11,157	155,637	166,794	119,254
FUND BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER 2024		12,117	160,323	172,440	166,794

These unaudited financial statements have been subjected to independent examination. See report on page 7

BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	2024	2023
FIXED ASSETS		£	£
Investments	6.5	902	902
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors and Prepayments		3,728	3,269
Cash at the bank and in hand		169,663	163,414
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		173,391	166,683
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	5	1,853	791
NET CURRENT ASSETS		171,538	165,892
TOTAL NET ASSETS		172,440	166,794

FUNDS OF THE CHARITY

	Notes	2024	2023
Unrestricted funds	6	12,117	11,157
Restricted funds	6	160,323	155,637
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS		172,440	166,794

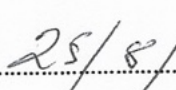
For the year ended 31 December 2024, the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") relating to small companies.

The trustees' and directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act,
- The trustees and directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees and authorized for issue on 25th August 2025, and are signed on their behalf by:

Wayne Paul Kitcat  Trustee

 25/8/ 2025

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	2024	2023
	£	£
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net cash provided by operating activities	6,249	45,380
CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	6,249	45,380
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	163,414	118,034
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD	169,663	163,414

These unaudited financial statements have been subjected to independent examination. See report on page 7

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES****Basis of accounting**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and under the historical cost convention. Within the definitions of FRS 102, the charity is a public benefit entity. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the financial statements and comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the charitable company, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Going concern

The trustees have reviewed the financial forecasts for the charity and have considered its anticipated income and expenditure commitments for a period of twelve months from the date of approval of these financial statements. The trustees believe that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for at least the next twelve months and to meet all its liabilities during that period as they fall due. For that reason, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Income

General donations and other similar types of voluntary income are brought into account when receivable and donated income is included gross of any attributable tax recoverable, where relevant. Donations given for specific purposes are treated as restricted income.

Grants

The charity received grants from local government which had conditions as to how they were used, and these are shown separately within restricted funds. The details of grants received, and amount spent are shown in note 6 with details of the impact being given in the Trustee's Report on Page 2 under Achievements and Performance.

Donations to the foodbank

Donations of food collected and distributed are measured by weight. The weight collected and distributed during the year is disclosed in note 6. The Trussell Trust recommends that we use £2.77 per kg for 2024 (which was £2.37 for 2023) to calculate the value of these donations.

Expenditure

Resources expended are allocated to the charity's principal activity as direct costs, where the costs can be identified as being directly related to that activity. Any costs that cannot be specifically categorized are allocated in proportions based upon a suitable ratio applicable to the nature of the cost involved.

Taxation

The company is a registered charity and, as such, its income and gains falling due under section 471 to 489 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 are exempt from corporate tax to the extent that they are applied to its charitable objectives.

Fund accounting

The general fund comprises the accumulated surpluses of unrestricted incoming resources over resources expended, which are available for use in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

These unaudited financial statements have been subjected to independent examination. See report on page 7

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Restricted funds are funds subject to specific conditions imposed by donors. The purpose and use of the restricted funds are set out in the Trustee's Report on pages 2 to 6.

2. INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Subscriptions	1,020	0	1,020	960	0	960
CODHAL donation	0	0	0	0	10,902	10,902
Foodbank donations	0	49,523	49,523	0	99,495	99,495
Heating donations	0	375	375	0	0	0
Bank interest	0	3,603	3,603	0	1,063	1,063
Ground rent	0	200	200	0	0	0
Grants from:						
Trussell Trust	0	125	125	0	11,902	11,902
Mole Valley District Council	0	22,500	22,500	0	40,930	40,930
Surrey County Council	0	33,000	33,000	0	19,380	19,380
TOTAL	1,020	109,326	110,346	960	183,672	184,632

3. EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs (see note 4)	0	39,136	39,136	0	21,553	21,553
Bank charges	60	0	60	66	0	66
Insurance	0	492	492	0	437	437
Administrative costs	0	7,345	7,345	35	2,750	2,785
Food Bank expenditure	0	5,891	5,891	0	46,260	46,260
Fuel Fund expenditure	0	1,065	1,065	0	20,361	20,361
MVDC Grant expenditure	0	26,914	26,914	0	32,058	32,058
SCC Grant expenditure	0	23,797	23,797	0	13,572	13,572
TOTAL	60	104,640	104,700	101	136,991	137,092

These unaudited financial statements have been subjected to independent examination. See report on page 7

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**4. STAFF COSTS**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Salary and wages	0	38,572	38,572	21,553
Social security costs	0	0	0	0
Pension costs	0	564	564	0
Total staff costs	0	39,136	39,136	21,553

The average monthly number of employees was 5 (2023: 3) and all are part-time which equates to the equivalent of 1.46 (2023: 0.96) of full-time employees. All employees are engaged only in charitable activities.

5. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Tax & NI	615	224
Other	1,238	567
	<u>1,853</u>	<u>791</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**6. THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY**

Movement in 2024		Balance at	Income	Expenditure	Balance at
		1/1/24			31/12/24
		£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds		11,157	1,020	60	12,117
Restricted funds					
Foodbank	6.1	138,779	53,451	52,864	139,366
Fuel fund	6.2	690	375	1,065	0
SCC winter hardship grant	6.3	7,297	33,000	23,797	16,500
MVDC household support grant	6.4	8,871	22,500	26,914	4,457
Total Restricted funds		155,637	109,326	104,640	160,323
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS		166,794	110,346	104,700	172,440

The charity purchases supermarket vouchers for clients to supplement food donated, and to buy food to supplement stock levels. At the end of 2024 the charity held £3,792.70 of vouchers that had not yet been used.

Movement in 2023		Balance at	Income	Expenditure	Balance at
		1/1/23			31/12/23
		£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds		10,298	960	101	11,157
Restricted funds					
Foodbank	6.1	104,802	104,976	70,999	138,779
Fuel fund	6.2	2,665	18,386	20,361	690
SCC winter hardship grant	6.3	1,489	19,380	13,572	7,297
MVDC household support grant	6.4	-	40,930	32,059	8,871
Total Restricted funds		108,956	183,672	136,991	155,637
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS		119,254	184,632	137,092	166,794

These unaudited financial statements have been subjected to independent examination. See report on page 7

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**6.1. Foodbank**

The Foodbank administers specific monetary donations by churches, organizations and individuals covering Dorking and the surrounding villages.

The value of the 29.2 tonnes of goods distributed during 2024 was equivalent to a value of £80,884 (2023 £79,869). The stock is valued at £2,770 per tonne (up from £2,370 per tonne in 2023) for the food and goods donated and distributed.

6.2. Fuel Fund

The Fuel fund represents specific monetary donations by churches, organizations, and individuals to assist those who are having difficulty paying for heating.

6.3. Winter Hardship Fund

This fund represents specific monetary grants made by Surrey County Council (SCC) for relief of winter hardship. The charity provides reports to SCC on the use of this fund.

6.4. Household Support Fund

This fund represents specific monetary grants made by Mole Valley District Council (MVDC) for household support. The charity provides reports to MVDC on the use of this fund.

6.5. Investment Income

The company's investment income include bank interest of £3,603 (2023 nil) and rent of £200 (2023 nil).

Dorking Area Foodbank owns the freehold to the two flats at 24 Howard Road. The lease generates an income from each flat, of £100 annually, due on 25 March. The charity receives no other payment from these flats and has no financial liability for any repairs that may be needed.

The lease on the lower flat expires on 24 December 2175.

The lease on the upper flat expires on 26 November 2143.

The table below lists the ground rent from each flat

Annual rent	Lower flat until	Upper flat until
£100	25 December 2047	26 November 2051
£200	25 December 2080	26 November 2084
£400	25 December 2113	26 November 2117
£800	24 December 2175	26 November 2143

6.6. Funds Held as Custodians for Other Charities

No funds were collected or held on behalf of other charities during the year.

6.7. Related Party Transactions

None of the trustees (or any persons related to them) received any remuneration during the current or previous period. The trustees made total donations of £540 (£675 including gift aid) during the year 2024, this compares with £803 in 2023.

The only transactions undertaken with related parties during the current or previous year were the monthly direct debit payment for the Foodbank's mobile phone which is paid from a trustee's personal account for which reimbursement is obtained periodically £239 (2023 £402) and the PAYE tax and NI £840 (2023 £224).