

THE METHODIST CHURCH: SOUTH-EAST DISTRICT

England & Wales · Charity number 1130274

Details

Other names SOUTH-EAST DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2009-06-22

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

Contact

Address District Office
Unit 4b Basepoint Business Centre
Metcalf Way
Crawley
W Sussex
RH11 7XX

Phone 01293813970

Email wendy.cory@methodistsoutheast.org

Website www.methodistsoutheast.org.uk

Activities

Objects: The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of union the advancement of -(a) the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church;(b) any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, district, circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church;(c) any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church;(d) any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church.

Activities: Religious Activities

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Gibraltar
- Malta
- Brighton And Hove
- East Sussex
- Hampshire
- Kent
- Slough
- Surrey
- West Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£950,785	£443,510	£1,164,324	2
2024-08-31	£771,580	£798,743	£657,049	3
2023-08-31	£612,345	£685,684	£684,212	3
2022-08-31	£545,156	£340,943	£757,551	3
2021-08-31	£642,769	£578,925	£553,338	3

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Bridget Ann Quint		2022-09-01
Charlotte Ellen Scrivens		2024-09-14
JENNIFER MARY JACKSON		2021-09-18
Jennifer Ann Gandy		2020-09-16
Linda Louise Weedon		2022-09-07
PAULINE JANET NEWTON		2016-06-01
ROGER STEPHEN BYARD		2026-04-18
Rev Conrad Julius Hicks		2025-09-01
Rev Daniel Balsdon		2020-09-19
Rev Dr BONNI BELLE PICKARD		2021-09-18
Rev Nicholas Andrew Oborski		2021-09-07
Rev Samantha Funnell		2020-09-01
Rev William Fletcher		2023-09-23

THE METHODIST CHURCH: SOUTH-EAST DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1130274

Accounts



Registered Charity number 1130274

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

**For the year ended
31st August 2025**



District Trustees

Rev David Hinchliffe (Chair) (resigned 31 August 2025)
Rev Conrad Hicks (Chair) (appointed 1 September 2025)
Rev Samantha Funnell (Deputy Chair)
Rev Daniel Balsdon (Deputy Chair)
Mrs Pauline Newton (District Treasurer)
Rev Nicholas Oborski (Synod Secretary)
Rev. William Fletcher
Mrs Jennifer Gandy
Ms Jenny Jackson
Deacon Joy Everingham (appointed 14 June 2025)
Rev Bonni-Belle Pickard
Miss Bridget Quint
Rev Andrew Reed (resigned 31 August 2025)
Mrs Charlotte Scrivens (appointed 14 September 2024)
Mrs. Linda Weedon

Principal Office

District Office, Unit 4b Basepoint Business Centre
Metcalf Way, Crawley, West Sussex RH11 7XX

Independent Examiner

Azets Audit Services
2nd Floor, Regis House, 45 King William Street, London, EC4R 9AN

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc, PO Box 1000, BX1 1LT

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street, London EC2A 4PE

**Investment Managers
and Custodian Trustees**

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2025

The Trustees submit their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2025. These are presented annually to the District Synod. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015) Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued on 16th July 2014 and Update Bulletin 1 issued 2nd February 2016, in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the Charity.

Objectives and Activities

The District is constituted to advance the mission of the Church in the South-East District by providing opportunities for circuits to work together and support each other, by offering them resources and finance, personnel and expertise which may not be available locally. The District also serves the local churches and circuits in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Church in programmes of training.

Objectives

The District came into being as a new Methodist District on the 1st September 2006. The main objectives set out were:

- To support and encourage the circuits in mission and worship as members of a world-wide church and global community;
- To develop pastoral care of lay and ordained staff living and working in the circuits and of the lay officers of the District;
- To work together to share ministry, leadership and responsibility and encourage these ways of working in the circuits.

Activities and Achievements

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are as follows: 'The Methodist Church believes that the Church is called to serve the purpose of the reign of God through its worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism.' Within this purpose the South-East Methodist District will concentrate on what it can uniquely and best do to promote excellence and creativity in worship, mission, ministry, oversight and governance in local churches, circuits and their communities.

Since its adoption April 2022, the South-East District has worked to fulfil its Mission Plan: "In playing its part in seeking to fulfil Our Calling as Methodist people, and inspired by the Methodist Way of Life, the purpose of the South-East District is to **Inspire, Enable and Encourage.**"

Inspire

The South-East Methodist District seeks to inspire us to be faithful disciples, bearing witness to God's love for the sake of the transformation of the world.

Enable

The South-East District seeks to enable our calling to be a people faithful to God in mission through offering good governance.

Encourage

The South-East District wants to encourage circuits, churches and individual disciples to live out their calling as followers of Jesus Christ.



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2025

Activities and Achievements (continued)

The practical outworking of the Mission Plan has included:

- * The continuing work of our Officer for Refugees, Migrants and Displaced Persons to support a network of knowledge and volunteers through Church, NGOs and statutory authorities across the South-East, as we continue to see significant numbers of cross-Channel migrants and BNO arrivals from Hong Kong coming into our area.
- * The District has completed its safeguarding compliance audit across the circuits.
- * The District has worked to support our District Safeguarding Officer who has brought professionalism and energy in offering transformative practices, training and advice to churches and circuits. We are delighted to see them move into a more senior role, whilst still offering us their time and expertise. Throughout the year we have been working with the Connexional Team on arrangements for them to establish a Connexional Safeguarding Team, and they are now the employing body for the District Safeguarding Officer (now called Regional Officer for Safeguarding). We are pleased they have appointed a replacement Regional Officer for Safeguarding to be aligned to South East District from 1st September 2025.
- * The District Treasurer and Grants Committee have supported oversight of the monies available to the District and through the District Advance Fund enabled the funding of innovative property and mission projects across the District. We are pleased to have appointed a part-time District Finance Officer to further underpin the important management of District resources.
- * The District's commitment to ecumenism is evidenced in our County Ecumenical Officers, chaplaincy resourcing and Local Ecumenical Partnership churches – all offering community outreach and care in their spheres of influence.
- * The District's important work with children and young people is enabled by the local churches in their communities but also through our two newly appointed Youth Ambassadors, chaplaincies and school visitors along with direct District encouragement and funding for attendance at 3GEN – the annual Methodist youth gathering.
- * The District has continued to develop its New Places for New People (NPNP) project in Gibraltar, and seeks to support other innovations for mission through this scheme with the resourcing of our new District NPNP team.
- * The District has continued to review its digital resources and policy.
- * Pastoral care remains at the heart of being a caring, Christian community. The District remains indebted to its ministers, and to the many lay workers/pastors and pastoral visitors who offer pastoral care across the churches and circuits.
- * Community service. Churches have been active in supporting vulnerable members and neighbours, as well as supporting much needed foodbanks. Many churches across the District continue to offer 'Warm Spaces', offering welcome and hospitality to their communities. The District supports this work with grants.
- * Training. This has been offered online and in person, with the Methodist Learning Network offering many imaginative online training opportunities, alongside those offered in local areas.
- * Mutual support. The District's superintendents have continued to meet weekly with the Chair and Assistant Chairs via Zoom in order to share best practice and offer mutual support and encouragement to each other. The Superintendents have also met twice residentially during this year. The District 'Early Years in Ministry' group continues to meet regularly at Aylesford Priory for mutual support and encouragement. The District oversees and facilitates Reflective Supervision for those engaged in active pastoral ministry.
- * District Officers and Support Teams. The District continues to be grateful for the work of the District Safeguarding Officer, District Property Officer, District Administrator & Chair's PA, and countless other volunteers that hold roles within our District structure - their support of the life of the District, its circuits and local churches is a great gift and resource to our life and ministry.



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2025

Activities and Achievements (continued)

* The District works hard to fill vacant volunteer posts. This remains a constant challenge but we have been pleased to see people coming forward when areas of need have been made known.

To conclude – this year has been a challenging one for many reasons, not least: staffing changes, ill-health and three ministerial sabbaticals in the Leadership Team. The District is hugely grateful to everyone who has helped us navigate this time.

Fundraising

The District does not actively fundraise from the general public.

Financial Review

Investment Policy

The surplus funds of the District's General Funds are held in a deposit account of the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, which is a separate body reporting directly to Conference. The surplus funds of the District Advance Fund are held in an account with The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees' objective is to maintain net current assets in Unrestricted Reserves equivalent to approximately four months' Resources expended. The Trustees maintain the Restricted Reserves at a sufficient level to enable each Fund to carry out its objectives.

District Expenses Account

The Net Resources showed an excess of income over expenditure of £31,377 (2024 £17,229) after setting aside a sum of £3,000 towards future repairs to the District Manse.

Chair's Benevolent Fund

This is a small fund which relies on donations from Churches, Circuits and individuals, which allows the District Chair to make payments to those the Chair feels are deserving of a Grant. Donations totalling £1,024 were received during the year and £590 was paid out in grants. The Fund only spends monies which it has available to it and at 31st August 2025 the balance carried forward was £1,360 (2024 £926). These funds are accounted for as restricted funds within the District Expenses bank account at Lloyds Bank.

District Advance Fund

After receiving Circuit levies of £154,950, £375,392 from the Connexional Priority Fund, grants and donations of £138,791 and Interest and Investment income of £56,827 the Trustees were able to make Grants totalling £218,400 and also transfers totalling £127,277 to the Expenses Account as follows: £16,413 relating to Training, £17,698 to District Safeguarding expenses, £61 to Refugee & Inter-faith expenditure, £15,016 to our District Property Officer, £1,368 to our new Finance Officer, £716 for District IT upgrade, £15,500 to Circuits to help with provision of 'Warm Welcome', £3,183 to Circuits for youthwork, £57,322 for work in Gibraltar. The funding from the London Mission Fund (LMF) continues to be channelled through our District Advance Fund and £107,290 has been received and passed on to Circuits.

Many of the Grants agreed relate to future years and under the accounting requirements, £759,332 has been set aside for this purpose. £527,683 (2024 £52,219b) is carried forward into the new Connexional Year.

Plans for Future Periods

We continue to review our Budget and hold several committee meetings on-line in order to reduce travel costs. As mentioned under District Advance Fund, the new arrangements continue for the



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2025

Financial Review (continued)

way the London Mission Fund makes grant payments and we anticipate a grant allocation of £71,145 in the year 25/26. The District Advance Fund will continue to receive Circuit Levies and a Grant from the Connexional Priority Fund when the District is eligible. This will enable the Grants Committee to offer Grants in year 2025/2026 depending on the quantity of the requests received. The Benevolent Fund will continue to consider requests to spend the resources available.

Structure, Governance and Trustees' Responsibilities

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Charity 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 Charity and of its financial activities for that period, together with its assets and liabilities at the end of the period, and adequately distinguish any material special trust or other restricted fund of the Charity. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable Accounting Standards, 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 operation.

Legal and administrative information

The governing body of the District is the Methodist Church and the governing body of the Methodist Church is the Conference. The Methodist Church Act 1976 gives the authority under which the Methodist Church acts. The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church governs the activities of the District. The District is a Registered Charity and was registered with the Charity Commission on 10th June 2009.

Trustees

The Trustees who have served during the year and those appointed since are set out on page 1. Trustees are appointed by the Autumn Synod.

The Trustees are responsible for the detailed examination of the financial statements and for recommending their adoption to Synod.

With District amalgamations, the SE District is one of twenty three Districts of the Methodist Church in the United Kingdom, with effect from 1st September 2025. The South-East District brings together fifteen Circuits, their Chapels and Manses based in the south eastern segment of England including the whole of Kent, most of Surrey and Sussex, small areas of Berkshire and Hampshire and includes the Circuits in Malta & Gibraltar. They are contactable via the principal office of the District.

Internal Financial Controls

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that there is in place an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise, to provide reasonable confidence and assurance that:

- the District's administration is operating effectively and efficiently;



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2025

Structure, Governance and Trustees' Responsibilities (continued)

- the assets of the District are properly safeguarded against unauthorised loss or damage;
- proper records are maintained and information produced for management control, fiscal and statutory reasons; and
- the District complies with the relevant laws and guidelines.

Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the major strategic business and operational risks which the charity faces, and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to monitor these risks.

District Independent Examiner

Azets Audit Services was appointed Independent Examiner of District Funds by the District Council.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 10th December, 2025.

Signed by:

Rev Conrad Hicks District Chair & Trustee

Mrs. Pauline J Newton District Treasurer & Trustee



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church South-East District

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church South-East District

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2025, which are set out on pages 8 – 17.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

Signed by:

John Howard FCA
Azets Audit Services
2nd Floor
Regis House
45 King William Street
London
EC4R 9AN

Date: 15th December 2025

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31st August 2025

Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total Funds	
	Expenses Account	Advance Fund	Benevolent Fund	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources					
Assessments	195,457	-	-	195,457	192,956
NPNP grant	24,108	-	-	24,108	10,000
Interest & Investment Income	4,236	56,827	-	61,063	56,058
Circuit Levies	-	154,950	-	154,950	216,143
Donations	-	138,791	1,024	139,815	107,113
CPF Distribution received	-	375,392	-	375,392	189,310
Total incoming resources	<u>223,801</u>	<u>725,960</u>	<u>1,024</u>	<u>950,785</u>	<u>771,580</u>
Resources expended on managing and administering the Charity					
District Administration	5	103,119	-	103,119	89,937
Contributions to Circuits for Assistant Chairs		32,600	-	32,600	47,652
District Safeguarding expenses	6	26,547	17,698	44,245	38,047
RMO/Property/Finance	7	-	16,383	16,383	23,992
Refugee & Inter-faith exp.		-	61	61	217
Synod Meeting expenses	8	615	-	615	1,176
Manse Expenditure	9	7,518	-	7,518	6,555
Provision for Manse repairs	10	3,000	-	3,000	3,000
District Committee Expenses		8,085	-	8,085	8,670
Training Grants & Expenses	11	-	16,413	16,413	18,976
Methodist Conference		180	-	180	281
Ecumenical payments	12	1,592	-	1,592	15,733
Other expenditure	13	9,168	716	9,884	9,126
		192,424	51,271	243,695	263,362
Grants and payments made in furtherance of the Charity's Objects					
Grants & donations	-	294,405	590	294,995	305,530
Increase (Reduction) in Provision for future years payments	-	(98,121)	-	(98,121)	227,803
Miscellaneous	-	2,941	-	2,941	2,048
Total Resources Expended		<u>192,424</u>	<u>250,496</u>	<u>590</u>	<u>443,510</u>
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources before Transfers					
		31,377	475,464	434	507,275
Transfer between Funds		-	-	-	-
Unresolved gains & losses on investments		-	-	-	-
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources after Transfers		31,377	475,464	434	(27,163)
Funds brought forward		<u>603,904</u>	<u>52,219</u>	<u>926</u>	<u>657,049</u>
Total Funds carried forward		<u>635,281</u>	<u>527,683</u>	<u>1,360</u>	<u>1,164,324</u>

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31st August 2024 (prior year)

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Total Funds
		Expenses Account	Advance Fund	Benevolent Fund	2024	
		£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources						
Assessments		192,956	-	-		192,956
NPNP grant		10,000	-	-		10,000
Interest & Investment Income		3,808	52,250	-		56,058
Circuit Levies		-	216,143	-		216,143
Donations		-	106,818	295		107,113
CPF Distribution received		-	189,310	-		189,310
Total incoming resources		206,764	564,521	295		771,580
Resources expended on managing and administering the Charity						
District Administration	5	89,937	-	-		89,937
Contributions to Circuits for Assistant Chairs		47,652	-	-		47,652
District Safeguarding expenses	6	24,625	13,422	-		38,047
Resourcing Mission/Property	7	-	23,992	-		23,992
Refugee & Inter-faith exp.		-	217	-		217
Synod Meeting expenses	8	1,176	-	-		1,176
Manse Expenditure	9	6,555	-	-		6,555
Provision for Manse repairs	10	3,000	-	-		3,000
District Committee Expenses		8,670	-	-		8,670
Training Grants & Expenses	11	-	18,976	-		18,976
Methodist Conference		281	-	-		281
Ecumenical payments	12	733	15,000	-		15,733
Other expenditure	13	6,906	2,220	-		9,126
		189,535	73,827	-		263,362
Grants and payments made in furtherance of the Charity's Objects						
Grants & donations		-	304,730	800		305,530
Increase (Reduction) in Provision for future years payments		-	227,803	-		227,803
Miscellaneous		-	2,048	-		2,048
Total Resources Expended		189,535	608,408	800		798,743
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources before Transfers						
		17,229	(43,887)	(505)		(27,163)
Transfer between Funds		-	-	-		-
Unresolved gains & losses on investments		-	-	-		-
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources after Transfers		17,229	(43,887)	(505)		(27,163)
Funds brought forward		586,675	96,106	1,431		684,212
Total Funds carried forward		603,904	52,219	926		657,049

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted		Restricted	Totals	
		General Fund	Advance Fund	Benevolent Fund	2025 £	2024 £
Tangible Fixed Assets						
District Manse	2	501,663	-	-	501,663	501,663
 Current Assets						
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		-	1,317,215	-	1,317,215	904,872
Debtors and Prepayments	3	-	4,800	-	4,800	7,283
Cash at Bank and Central Finance Board		<u>145,112</u>	-	1,360	<u>146,472</u>	<u>116,154</u>
Total current Assets		145,112	1,322,015	1,360	1,468,487	1,028,309
 Creditors and Accruals						
District Advance Fund – provision for amounts						
Falling due in future years	4	-	(759,332)	-	(759,332)	(857,453)
Creditors		(180)	(35,000)	-	(35,180)	-
Provision for Manse repairs	10	<u>(11,314)</u>	-	-	<u>(11,314)</u>	<u>(15,470)</u>
Total current assets less current liabilities		133,618	527,683	1,360	662,661	155,386
 Total Net Assets		 <u>635,281</u>	 <u>527,683</u>	 <u>1,360</u>	 <u>1,164,324</u>	 <u>657,049</u>
 Funds of the District						
General Fund (Unrestricted)		635,281	-	-	635,281	603,904
District Advance Fund (Unrestricted)		-	527,683	-	527,683	52,219
Benevolent Fund (Restricted)		-	-	1,360	1,360	926
Total Funds	20	<u>635,281</u>	<u>527,683</u>	<u>1,360</u>	<u>1,164,324</u>	<u>657,049</u>

The notes on pages 13 to 17 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 10th December, 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Mrs. Pauline J Newton
District Treasurer and Trustee

Rev. Conrad Hicks
District Chair and Trustee

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2024 (prior year)

		Unrestricted	Restricted		
	Notes		Advance Fund	Benevolent Fund	Totals 2024 £
Tangible Fixed Assets					
District Manse	2	501,663	-	-	501,663
 Current Assets					
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		-	904,872	-	904,872
Debtors and Prepayments	3	2,483	4,800	-	7,283
Cash at Bank and Central Finance Board		<u>115,228</u>	-	926	<u>116,154</u>
Total current Assets		117,711	909,672	926	1,028,309
 Creditors and Accruals					
District Advance Fund – provision for amounts					
Falling due in future years	4	-	(857,453)	-	(857,453)
Provision for Manse repairs	10	<u>(15,470)</u>	-	-	<u>(15,470)</u>
Total current assets less current liabilities		102,241	52,219	926	155,386
 Total Net Assets		 <u>603,904</u>	 <u>52,219</u>	 <u>926</u>	 <u>657,049</u>
 Funds of the District					
General Fund (Unrestricted)		603,904	-	-	603,904
District Advance Fund (Restricted)		-	52,219	-	52,219
Benevolent Fund (Restricted)		-	-	926	926
Total Funds	20	<u>603,904</u>	<u>52,219</u>	<u>926</u>	<u>657,049</u>

The notes on pages 13 to 17 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 11th December, 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

David Hinchliffe
District Chair and Trustee

Mrs. Pauline J Newton
District Treasurer and Trustee

Cashflow Statement as at 31st August 2024

Statement of Cashflows

		2025	2024
	Note	£	£
Net cash generated from/(used by) operating activities	22	381,598	156,100
Cashflows from investing activities:			
Interest from investments		<u>61,063</u>	<u>56,058</u>
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents		442,661	212,158
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>1,021,026</u>	<u>808,868</u>
Cash & cash equivalents at end of year		<u>1,463,687</u>	<u>1,021,026</u>
Cash at bank and in hand		146,472	116,154
Short term deposits		<u>1,317,215</u>	<u>904,872</u>
		<u>1,463,687</u>	<u>1,021,026</u>



Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2025

1. Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16th July 2014 and Update Bulletin 1 issued on 2nd February 2016.

Going Concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31st August 2025 the Trustees believe that the District is a going concern.

Funds

The funds held constitute General Funds held for any purpose of the District and are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and Restricted Funds which are held for a narrower purpose.

Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Depreciation has not been provided on freehold land and buildings because the trustees consider the residual value of the manse is not less than cost and the depreciation would be immaterial.

Incoming Resources

These are included in the SOFA when the District becomes entitled to the resources; the Trustees are virtually certain that they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Liability Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the District to make the payment. With regard to the District Advance Fund, a note of the Contingent Liability is set out in Note 4 to these Accounts.

Provisions

An annual provision is made for major expenditure on manse repairs, with such expenditure being deducted from the accumulated provision when it is incurred.

Debtors

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the District or prepaid.

Gains/(losses) on investments

The investments are in monetary assets and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value are those provided by TMCP. Realised and unrealised capital gains and losses on investments are dealt with in the SOFA in the year in which they arise, based on the brought forward valuations or cost of subsequent additions.

Estimates and judgements

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.



**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2025**

	2025	2024
	£	£
2. Fixed Assets		
Freehold land and building		
Deemed Cost		
District manse – as at 31 st August 2025	501,663	501,663
Land £167,221 Building £334,442		
3. Debtors and Prepayments		
Conference expenses paid from District funds awaiting repayment from Connexion	-	2,483
Rent paid in advance for Superintendents flat in Gibraltar	4,800	4,800
4. Creditors and Accruals		
District Advance Fund		
Provision for Grants committed or payable in future years, balance as at 31 st August	857,453	629,650
Increase (reduction) in provision for future payments	(98,121)	227,803
	Payable	Payable
	2025-26	2026 onwards
	£473,932	£285,400
Total Provision as at 31 st August	<u>759,332</u>	<u>857,453</u>
5. District Administration		
Chair's travel and miscellaneous expenses	4,973	2,984
New Chair's relocation	1,389	
Secretarial and Administration	48,062	44,514
- Salary - £40,932		
- Social security - £4,714		
- Pension - £2,416		
District Office rent	34,433	32,965
District Office expenses, insce. printing, stationery, post, Phone, misc.	<u>14,262</u>	<u>9,474</u>
	<u>103,119</u>	<u>89,937</u>
6. District Safeguarding Expenses		
Safeguarding Officer transferred to Connexion payroll May 2025		
Officer	39,563	28,756
- Salary - £33,707		
- Social security - £3,883		
- Pension - £1,973		
Additional costs incurred	<u>4,682</u>	<u>9,291</u>
	44,245	38,047
Reimbursed from District Advance Fund	<u>(17,698)</u>	<u>(13,422)</u>
Cost to District Expenses	<u>26,547</u>	<u>24,625</u>



**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2025**

	2025	2024
	£	£
7. Resourcing Mission/Property/Finance Officers		
Resourcing Mission Officer role ceased 31.08.24		
2 District Officers (part-time)	16,144	22,955
- PO Salary - £13,152		
- PO Social Security - £836		
- PO Pension – £789	£14,777	
- FO Salary - £1,182		
- FO Social Security - £114		
- FO Pension - £71	£1,367	
Expenses including travel, phone calls etc	<u>239</u>	<u>1,037</u>
	16,383	23,992
Reimbursed from District Advance Fund	<u>(16,383)</u>	<u>(23,992)</u>
	-	-
8. Synod Expenses		
Miscellaneous costs	185	652
Miscellaneous travel	<u>430</u>	<u>524</u>
	<u>615</u>	<u>1,176</u>
9. District Manse Expenses		
Council tax	3,526	3,366
Water rates	710	219
Insurance	1,415	1,684
Telephone	810	924
Miscellaneous expenses, boiler, security, etc	<u>1,057</u>	<u>362</u>
	<u>7,518</u>	<u>6,555</u>
10. Provision for Manse Repairs		
Balance as at 31 st August 2024	15,470	12,470
Amount transferred in the year	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>
	18,470	15,470
Expenditure during the year	<u>(7,156)</u>	-
Balance as at 31 st August 2025	<u>11,314</u>	<u>15,470</u>
11. Training expenditure		
Total paid out for Training Grants	4,622	1,907
Residential Conferences, Training courses etc	<u>11,791</u>	<u>17,069</u>
	16,413	18,976
Reimbursed from District Advance Fund	<u>(16,413)</u>	<u>(18,976)</u>
Cost to District Expenses	-	-
12. Ecumenical payments		
Churches Together in Surrey	587	733
Kent Workplace Mission	-	15,000
Kent Leaders residential	209	-
Kent & Sussex Ec.Off. residentials	<u>796</u>	-
	<u>1,592</u>	<u>15,733</u>



**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2025**

	2025	2024
13. Other expenditure	£	£
Youth Conference – 3Generate	-	291
Copyright	442	421
Employment advice	2,107	2,215
Independent Exam. fee	3,000	2,700
Apprenticeship Levy	442	418
Administration and bank charges	105	86
District 'New Places for New People' Project	1,572	775
District 'Messiah' performance	<u>1,500</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>9,168</u>	<u>6,906</u>

14. Reimbursements

No employee earned £60,000 per annum or more.

The average number of employees, analysed by function, was:

	2025	2024
F/T Administration of the charity	1	1
F/T District Safeguarding Officer (to May 2025)	1	1
Part-time District Property/Finance Officers	2	1

The Chair of S E District chairs meetings of the District Council and provides key management of the charity. The stipend, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions of the Chair of District are paid by the Methodist Connexion. Members of the District Council are the Trustees of the Charity and work with the Chair of District to manage the Charity.

15. Payments to Trustees

Expenses of £7,189 were reimbursed to seven Trustees for their travelling and out of pocket expenses.

16. Ultimate controlling party

The ultimate controlling party of the District is considered to be the Annual Conference of the Methodist Church.

17. Related parties

The related parties of the District are fifteen Circuits, their Chapels and Manses, which are all based in the south-eastern segment of England including the whole of Kent and most of Surrey and Sussex and includes small areas of Berkshire and Hampshire and the Circuits in Malta and Gibraltar. They are contactable via the principal office of the District. Funds are transferred from Circuits to the District on a quarterly basis.

During the year, no transactions took place with related parties (as defined by Financial Reporting Standard No. 33).

18. Capital commitments

	2025
At 31 st August 2025 the District had the following Capital Commitments:	Nil

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2025

19. Expenses related to Malta & Gibraltar

Each year, expenses incurred relating to members of the churches in Malta & Gibraltar travelling to District meetings are paid for by Methodist Church Fund so are not included in our SOFA. The amount for year 2025 is £5,603 (2024 £4,859).

20. Funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL
Brought forward	656,123	926	657,049
Income	949,761	1,024	950,785
Expenditure	(442,920)	(590)	(443,510)
Other gains/losses	_____ -	_____ -	_____ -
Carried forward	1,162,964	1,360	1,164,324

District Advance Fund

Many of the Grants agreed relate to future years and under the accounting requirements funds have been set aside for this purpose. **This Fund is now treated as Unrestricted funds.**

Only the Benevolent Fund is now treated as Restricted Funds

21. Funds (prior year)

	Unrestricted (restated)	Restricted (restated)	TOTAL
Brought forward	682,781	1,431	684,212
Income	771,285	295	771,580
Expenditure	(797,943)	(800)	(798,743)
Other gains/losses	_____ -	_____ -	_____ -
Carried forward	656,123	926	657,049

22. Reconciliation of net cash provided by/(used by) operating activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Net expenditure for the reporting period	507,275	(27,163)
Interest received	(61,063)	(56,058)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	2483	8,518
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>(67,097)</u>	<u>230,803</u>
	<u>381,598</u>	<u>156,100</u>

THE METHODIST CHURCH: SOUTH-EAST DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1130274

Accounts



Registered Charity number 1130274

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

**For the year ended
31st August 2024**



District Trustees

Rev David Hinchliffe (Chair)
Rev Helen Hollands (Assistant Chair) (resigned 31 August 2024)
Rev Samantha Funnell (Assistant Chair)
Rev Daniel Balsdon (Assistant Chair)
Mrs Pauline Newton (District Treasurer)
Rev Nicholas Oborski (Synod Secretary)
Rev. William Fletcher (appointed September 2023)
Mrs Jennifer Gandy
Ms Jenny Jackson
Rev Sydney Samuel Lake (resigned 31 August 2024)
Deacon Michelle Legumi (resigned 31 August 2024)
Rev Bonni-Belle Pickard
Miss Bridget Quint
Rev Andrew Reed
Mrs Charlotte Scrivens (appointed 14th September 2024)
Mrs. Linda Weedon

Principal Office

District Office, Unit 4b Basepoint Business Centre
Metcalf Way, Crawley, West Sussex RH11 7XX

Independent Examiner

Azets Audit Services
2nd Floor, Regis House, 45 King William Street, London, EC4R 9AN

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc, PO Box 1000, BX1 1LT

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street, London EC2A 4PE

**Investment Managers
and Custodian Trustees**

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2024

The Trustees submit their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2024. These are presented annually to the District Synod. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015) Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued on 16th July 2014 and Update Bulletin 1 issued 2nd February 2016, in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the Charity.

Objectives and Activities

The District is constituted to advance the mission of the Church in the South-East District by providing opportunities for circuits to work together and support each other, by offering them resources and finance, personnel and expertise which may not be available locally. The District also serves the local churches and circuits in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Church in programmes of training.

Objectives

The District came into being as a new Methodist District on the 1st September 2006. The main objectives set out were:

- To support and encourage the circuits in mission and worship as members of a world-wide church and global community;
- To develop pastoral care of lay and ordained staff living and working in the circuits and of the lay officers of the District;
- To work together to share ministry, leadership and responsibility and encourage these ways of working in the circuits.

Activities and Achievements

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are as follows: 'The Methodist Church believes that the Church is called to serve the purpose of the reign of God through its worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism.' Within this purpose the South-East Methodist District will concentrate on what it can uniquely and best do to promote excellence and creativity in worship, mission, ministry, oversight and governance in local churches, circuits and their communities.

Since its Representative Synod in April 2022, the South-East District has been working towards fulfilling its Mission Plan entitled "Inspire – Encourage – Enable". In summary, the Mission Plan affirms that:

"In playing its part in seeking to fulfil Our Calling as Methodist people, and inspired by the Methodist Way of Life, the purpose of the South-East District is to **Inspire, Enable and Encourage.**"

Inspire

The South-East Methodist District seeks to inspire us to be faithful disciples, bearing witness to God's love for the sake of the transformation of the world.

Enable

The South-East District seeks to enable our calling to be a people faithful to God in mission through offering **good governance.**

Encourage

The South-East District wants to encourage circuits, churches and individual disciples to live out their calling as followers of Jesus Christ.



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2024

Activities and Achievements (continued)

The South-East Methodist District therefore commits itself in the following ways:

Our Commitment

The Methodist Church invites us to recognise that in God for all:

- All need to be **Centred in God**
- **Everyone is an Evangelist**
- Our desire is to develop **Transformational Leadership**
- We have the opportunity to cultivate **New Places for New People**
- We take seriously our missional need to be a **Church at the Margins**
- We seek for **Every Church a Growing Church**
- We commit to **Developing Young Evangelists, Pioneers, and Leaders**
- We need to create an effective **Digital Presence: Mission for the Digital Age**

The Next Steps

- Develop our work amongst **refugees, migrants, displaced persons**
- Develop **an international twinning relationship** with the Methodist Church's *Global Relationships* team
- Ensure the development of **an effective digital strategy** for mission
- Continue to encourage and support churches and circuits developing **new housing mission**
- Identify and support the opportunities to develop **new places for new people**
- Support **the development of children and youth work** in the District by advocacy for 3Generate and for Methodists to engage with schools in their communities
- Enable the District, circuits and churches to promote, celebrate and inhabit the call to **equality, diversity and inclusion** within the life of the Church for the sake of the world
- Seek to **inspire, enable and encourage** the Methodist people to be the people God calls us to be!

In the fulfilling of the District Mission Plan:

- * Our Officer for Refugees, Migrants and Displaced Persons continues working with a network of knowledge and volunteers through Church, NGOs and statutory authorities across the South-East in recognition of the significant numbers of cross-Channel migrants coming into the District, as well as a significant number of British Overseas Nationals arriving from Hong Kong which, in one case in the District, trebled the size of a congregation in one year.
- * The District has completed a review of all District and Circuit lay employees' roles, terms and conditions, contracts etc in order to ensure best lay employment practice is being consistently followed across the District. We are grateful to the District Lay Employment Advisor and to the working group assisting in this work.
- * The District has initiated a safeguarding audit of the circuits to ensure best practice.
- * The District has been delighted to appoint a new District Safeguarding Officer who, with vision and verve, is helping the District ensure it is doing the best it can to be a safe place for all.
- * The District rejoiced that it was able to send forth 2 presbyters and 2 deacons for ordination at the Methodist Conference in Leeds.
- * The District continues to use the monies available to it through the District Advance Fund to support innovative property and mission projects across the District.
- * The District rejoiced to see the opening of the newly built Emmanuel Church in Eastbourne. A highlight has been that Emmanuel hosted the Methodist Modern Art Collection in the late spring.
- * We rejoice that an increasing number of children and young people from across the District have been able to attend 3Generate – the Methodist Church's national children and youth gathering at the NEC in Birmingham.



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2024

Activities and Achievements (continued)

- * The District is developing its New Places for New People project in Gibraltar, and is planning to partner with Cliff College in that developing work. The District also rejoices in innovations for mission which are developing in various contexts across the South-East.
- * The District itself continues to review its own digital resources and policy.
- * Pastoral care remains at the heart of being a caring, Christian community. The District remains indebted to its ministers, and to the many lay workers and pastoral visitors who offer pastoral care across the churches and circuits.
- * Community service. Churches have been active in supporting vulnerable members and neighbours, as well as supporting increasingly needed foodbanks. Given the high cost of living, many churches across the District took part in the Winter Warm Spaces initiative, offering warmth, welcome and hospitality to many communities. In numerous cases the District was able to support this work by the offering of grants to contribute towards the cost of heating premises for this initiative, and to provide food at no cost to the recipient.
- * Training. This has been offered online, and in person, with the Methodist Learning Network offering many imaginative online training opportunities. A particular focus this year has been in developing our reconciliation capacity. The District Safeguarding Team along with the Learning Network Team have been working hard to ensure that those required to undertake Safeguarding Advanced Module Training have been able to complete it by the Connexionally-set deadline. We continue to be very grateful for their hard work and imagination.
- * Mutual support. The District's superintendents have continued to meet weekly with the Chair and Assistant Chairs via Zoom in order to share best practice and offer mutual support and encouragement to each other. The Superintendents have also met twice residentially during this year. The District "Under Fives Group" (those in early years in ministry) has continued to meet regularly via Zoom and now in person for mutual support and encouragement.
- * District Officers and Support Teams. The District continues to be grateful for the work of the District Resourcing Mission Officer, District Safeguarding Officer, the District Property Officer and District Administrator, in their support of the life of the District, Circuits and local churches in the fulfilment of their responsibilities.
- * The District has worked hard to fill vacant volunteer posts. This remains a constant challenge.

Finally, the District Chair wishes to honour and celebrate the skill, imagination, grace and commitment of so many faithful servants of Christ across the District who have enabled the Church to flourish even amidst a pandemic. He is especially grateful to the District's Assistant Chairs, and to his PA, and to the remarkable number of District Officers who continue to serve the Church faithfully, imaginatively and with good cheer.

Fundraising

The District does not actively fundraise from the general public.

Financial Review

Investment Policy

The surplus funds of the District's General Funds are held in a deposit account of the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, which is a separate body reporting directly to Conference. The surplus funds of the District Advance Fund are held in an account with The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees' objective is to maintain net current assets in Unrestricted Reserves equivalent to approximately four months' Resources expended. The Trustees maintain the Restricted Reserves at a sufficient level to enable each Fund to carry out its objectives.



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2024

Financial Review (continued)

District Expenses Account

The Net Resources showed an excess of income over expenditure of £17,229 (2023 excess of expenditure over income of £3042) after setting aside a sum of £3,000 towards future repairs to the District Manse.

Chair's Benevolent Fund

This is a small fund which relies on donations from Churches, Circuits and individuals, which allows the District Chair to make payments to those the Chair feels are deserving of a Grant. Donations totalling £295 were received during the year and £800 was paid out in grants. The Fund only spends monies which it has available to it and at 31st August 2024 the balance carried forward was £926. (2023 £1,431). These funds are accounted for as restricted funds within the District Expenses bank account at Lloyds Bank.

District Advance Fund

After receiving Circuit levies of £216,143, £189,310 from the Connexional Priority Fund, grants and donations of £106,818 and Interest and Investment income of £52,250 the Trustees were able to make Grants totalling £174,891 and also transfers totalling £125,524 to the Expenses Account as follows: £18,976 relating to Training, £13,422 to District Safeguarding expenses, £217 to Refugee & Inter-faith expenditure, £10,126 to our Resourcing Mission Officer, £13,866 to our District Property Officer, £2,220 for District IT upgrade, £13,500 to Circuits to help with provision of 'Warm Welcome', £5,370 to Circuits for youthwork, £32,827 for work in Gibraltar and £15,000 to Kent Workplace Mission for our Ecumenical partnership work in Kent. The funding from the London Mission Fund (LMF) continues to be channelled through our District Advance Fund and £90,418 has been received and passed on to Circuits.

Many of the Grants agreed relate to future years and under the accounting requirements, £857,453 has been set aside for this purpose. £47,420 (2023 £96,106) is carried forward into the new Connexional Year.

Plans for Future Periods

We continue to review our Budget and hold several committee meetings on-line in order to reduce travel costs. As mentioned under District Advance Fund, the new arrangements continue for the way the London Mission Fund makes grant payments and we anticipate a grant allocation of £71,145 in the year 24/25. The District Advance Fund will continue to receive Circuit Levies and a Grant from the Connexional Priority Fund when the District is eligible. This will enable the Grants Committee to offer Grants in year 2024/2025 depending on the quantity of the requests received. The Benevolent Fund will continue to consider requests to spend the resources available.

Structure, Governance and Trustees' Responsibilities

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Charity 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 Charity and of its financial activities for that period, together with its assets and liabilities at the end of the period, and adequately distinguish any material special trust or other restricted fund of the Charity. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable Accounting Standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2024

Structure, Governance and Trustees' Responsibilities (continued)

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

Legal and administrative information

The governing body of the District is the Methodist Church and the governing body of the Methodist Church is the Conference. The Methodist Church Act 1976 gives the authority under which the Methodist Church acts. The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church governs the activities of the District. The District is a Registered Charity and was registered with the Charity Commission on 10th June 2009.

Trustees

The Trustees who have served during the year and those appointed since are set out on page 1. Trustees are appointed by the Autumn Synod.

The Trustees are responsible for the detailed examination of the financial statements and for recommending their adoption to Synod.

With District amalgamations, the SE District is one of twenty four Districts of the Methodist Church in the United Kingdom, with effect from 1st September 2024. The South-East District brings together seventeen Circuits, their Chapels and Manses based in the south eastern segment of England including the whole of Kent, most of Surrey and Sussex, small areas of Berkshire and Hampshire and includes the Circuits in Malta & Gibraltar. They are contactable via the principal office of the District.

Internal Financial Controls

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that there is in place an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise, to provide reasonable confidence and assurance that:

- the District's administration is operating effectively and efficiently;
- the assets of the District are properly safeguarded against unauthorised loss or damage;
- proper records are maintained and information produced for management control, fiscal and statutory reasons; and
- the District complies with the relevant laws and guidelines.

Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the major strategic business and operational risks which the charity faces, and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to monitor these risks.

District Independent Examiner

Azets Audit Services was appointed Independent Examiner of District Funds by the District Council.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 11th December, 2024.

Signed by:

Rev David Hinchliffe District Chair & Trustee

Mrs. Pauline J Newton District Treasurer & Trustee



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church South-East District

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church South-East District

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2024, which are set out on pages 8 – 17.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

Signed by:

John Howard FCA
Azets Audit Services
2nd Floor
Regis House
45 King William Street
London
EC4R 9AN

Date: 8th January 2025

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31st August 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds		Total Funds	
			Expenses Account	Advance Fund	Benevolent Fund	2024
		£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources						
Assessments		192,956	-	-	192,956	211,190
NPNP grant		10,000	-	-	10,000	-
Interest & Investment Income		3,808	52,250	-	56,058	28,865
Circuit Levies		-	216,143	-	216,143	240,197
Donations		-	106,818	295	107,113	99,142
CPF Distribution received		-	189,310	-	189,310	32,951
Total incoming resources		206,764	564,521	295	771,580	612,345
Resources expended on managing and administering the Charity						
District Administration	5	89,937	-	-	89,937	84,943
Contributions to Circuits for Assistant Chairs		47,652	-	-	47,652	44,310
District Safeguarding expenses	6	24,625	13,422	-	38,047	53,813
Resourcing Mission/Property	7	-	23,992	-	23,992	22,983
Refugee & Inter-faith exp.		-	217	-	217	286
Synod Meeting expenses	8	1,176	-	-	1,176	828
Manse Expenditure	9	6,555	-	-	6,555	6,763
Provision for Manse repairs	10	3,000	-	-	3,000	3,000
District Committee Expenses		8,670	-	-	8,670	11,807
Training Grants & Expenses	11	-	18,976	-	18,976	22,779
Methodist Conference		281	-	-	281	899
Ecumenical payments	12	733	15,000	-	15,733	10,812
Other expenditure	13	6,906	2,220	-	9,126	30,800
		189,535	73,827	-	263,362	294,023
Grants and payments made in furtherance of the Charity's Objects						
Grants & donations		-	304,730	800	305,530	226,551
Increase (Reduction) in Provision for future years payments		-	227,803	-	227,803	163,281
Miscellaneous		-	2,048	-	2,048	1,829
Total Resources Expended		189,535	608,408	800	798,743	685,684
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources before Transfers						
		17,229	(43,887)	(505)	(27,163)	(73,339)
Transfer between Funds		-	-	-	-	-
Unresolved gains & losses on investments		-	-	-	-	-
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources after Transfers		17,229	(43,887)	(505)	(27,163)	(73,339)
Funds brought forward		586,675	96,106	1,431	684,212	757,551
Total Funds carried forward		603,904	52,219	926	657,049	684,212

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31st August 2023 (prior year)

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds		Total Funds
			Expenses Account	Advance Fund	
		£	£	£	2023
		£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources					
Assessments		211,190	-	-	211,190
Interest & Investment Income		3,013	25,852	-	28,865
Circuit Levies		-	240,197	-	240,197
Grant/Donations		-	98,778	364	99,142
CPF Distribution received		-	32,951	-	32,951
Total incoming resources		214,203	397,778	364	612,345
Resources expended on managing and administering the Charity					
District Administration	5	84,943	-	-	84,943
Contributions to Circuits for Assistant Chairs		44,310	-	-	44,310
District Safeguarding expenses	6	43,050	10,763	-	53,813
Resourcing Mission/Property	7	-	22,983	-	22,983
Refugee & Inter-faith exp.		-	286	-	286
Synod Meeting expenses	8	828	-	-	828
Manse Expenditure	9	6,763	-	-	6,763
Provision for Manse repairs	10	3,000	-	-	3,000
District Committee Expenses		11,807	-	-	11,807
Training Grants & Expenses	11	-	22,779	-	22,779
Methodist Conference		899	-	-	899
Ecumenical payments	12	10,812	-	-	10,812
Other expenditure	13	10,833	19,967	-	30,800
		217,245	76,778	-	294,023
Grants and payments made in furtherance of the Charity's Objects					
Grants & donations		-	226,301	250	226,551
Increase (Reduction) in Provision for future years payments		-	163,281	-	163,281
Miscellaneous		-	1,829	-	1,829
Total Resources Expended		217,245	468,189	250	685,684
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources before Transfers					
		(3,042)	(70,411)	114	(73,339)
Transfer between Funds		-	-	-	-
Unresolved gains & losses on investments		-	-	-	-
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources after Transfers		(3,042)	(70,411)	114	(73,339)
Funds brought forward		589,717	166,517	1,317	757,551
Total Funds carried forward		586,675	96,106	1,431	684,212

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2024

		Unrestricted	Restricted		Totals	
	Notes		Advance Fund	Benevolent Fund	2024 £	2023 £
Tangible Fixed Assets						
District Manse	2	501,663	-	-	501,663	501,663
Current Assets						
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		-	904,872	-	904,872	709,955
Debtors and Prepayments	3	2,483	4,800	-	7,283	15,801
Cash at Bank and Central Finance Board		<u>115,228</u>	-	926	<u>116,154</u>	<u>98,913</u>
Total current Assets		117,711	909,672	926	1,028,309	824,669
Creditors and Accruals						
District Advance Fund – provision for amounts						
Falling due in future years	4	-	(857,453)	-	(857,453)	(629,650)
Provision for Manse repairs	10	(15,470)	-	-	(15,470)	(12,470)
Total current assets less current liabilities		102,241	52,219	926	155,386	182,549
Total Net Assets		603,904	52,219	926	657,049	684,212
Funds of the District						
General Fund (Unrestricted)		603,904	-	-	603,904	586,675
District Advance Fund (Restricted)		-	52,219	-	52,219	96,106
Benevolent Fund (Restricted)		-	-	926	926	<u>1,431</u>
Total Funds	20	<u>603,904</u>	<u>52,219</u>	<u>926</u>	<u>657,049</u>	<u>684,212</u>

The notes on pages 13 to 17 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 11th December, 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

David Hinchliffe
District Chair and Trustee

Mrs. Pauline J Newton
District Treasurer and Trustee

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2023 (prior year)

		Unrestricted	Restricted		
	Notes		Advance Fund	Benevolent Fund	Totals 2023
Tangible Fixed Assets					£
District Manse	2	501,663	-	-	501,663
Current Assets					
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes Debtor	3	-	709,955	-	709,955
Cash at Bank and Central Finance Board		97,482	-	1,431	98,913
Total current Assets		97,482	725,756	1,431	824,669
Creditors and Accruals					
District Advance Fund – provision for amounts falling due in future years	4	-	(629,650)	-	(629,650)
Provision for Manse repairs	10	(12,470)	-	-	(12,470)
Total current assets less current liabilities		85,012	96,106	1,431	182,549
Total Net Assets		586,675	96,106	1,431	684,212
Funds of the District					
General Fund (Unrestricted)		586,675	-	-	586,675
District Advance Fund (Restricted)		-	96,106	-	96,106
Benevolent Fund (Restricted)		-	-	1,431	1,431
Total Funds	21	586,675	96,106	1,431	684,212

Approved by the Trustees on 7th December, 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

David Hinchliffe
District Chair and Trustee

Mrs. Pauline J Newton
District Treasurer and Trustee

Cashflow Statement as at 31st August 2024

Statement of Cashflows

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Net cash generated from/(used by) operating activities	22	156,100	47,126
Cashflows from investing activities:			
Interest from investments		<u>56,058</u>	<u>28,865</u>
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents		212,158	75,991
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>808,868</u>	<u>732,877</u>
Cash & cash equivalents at end of year		<u>1,021,026</u>	<u>808,868</u>
Cash at bank and in hand		116,154	98,913
Short term deposits		<u>904,872</u>	<u>709,955</u>
		<u>1,021,026</u>	<u>808,868</u>



Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2024

1. Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16th July 2014 and Update Bulletin 1 issued on 2nd February 2016.

Going Concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31st August 2024 the Trustees believe that the District is a going concern.

Funds

The funds held constitute General Funds held for any purpose of the District and are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and Restricted Funds which are held for a narrower purpose.

Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Depreciation has not been provided on freehold land and buildings because the trustees consider the residual value of the manse is not less than cost and the depreciation would be immaterial.

Incoming Resources

These are included in the SOFA when the District becomes entitled to the resources; the Trustees are virtually certain that they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Liability Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the District to make the payment. With regard to the District Advance Fund, a note of the Contingent Liability is set out in Note 4 to these Accounts.

Provisions

An annual provision is made for major expenditure on manse repairs, with such expenditure being deducted from the accumulated provision when it is incurred.

Debtors

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the District or prepaid.

Gains/(losses) on investments

The investments are in monetary assets and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value are those provided by TMCP. Realised and unrealised capital gains and losses on investments are dealt with in the SOFA in the year in which they arise, based on the brought forward valuations or cost of subsequent additions.

Estimates and judgements

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.



**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2024**

	2024	2023
	£	£
2. Fixed Assets		
Freehold land and building		
Deemed Cost		
District manse – as at 31 st August 2024	501,663	501,663
Land £167,221 Building £334,442		
3. Debtors and Prepayments		
Duplicate grant payment	-	15,801
Conference expenses paid from District funds awaiting repayment from Connexion	2,483	-
Rent paid in advance for Superintendents flat in Gibraltar	4,800	-
4. Creditors and Accruals		
District Advance Fund		
Provision for Grants committed or payable in future years, balance as at 31 st August	629,650	466,369
Increase (reduction) in provision for future payments	227,803	163,281
	Payable	Payable
	2024-25	2025 onwards
	£378,303	£479,150
Total Provision as at 31 st August	<u>857,453</u>	<u>629,650</u>
5. District Administration		
Chair's travel and miscellaneous expenses	2,984	3,474
Secretarial and Administration	44,514	41,129
- Salary - £38,304		
- Social security - £3,948		
- Pension - £2,262		
District Office rent	32,965	30,300
District Office expenses, printing, stationery, post, Phone, etc	<u>9,474</u>	<u>10,040</u>
	<u>89,937</u>	<u>84,943</u>
6. District Safeguarding Expenses		
No Safeguarding Officer Oct.2023 to 18 th Mar.2024		
Previous SO Sep 2023 and new SO wef 19 th Mar.24	28,756	44,625
- Salary - £24,699		
- Social security - £2,676		
- Pension - £1,381		
Additional costs incurred	<u>9,291</u>	<u>9,188</u>
	38,047	53,813
Reimbursed from District Advance Fund	<u>(13,422)</u>	<u>(10,763)</u>
Cost to District Expenses	<u>24,625</u>	<u>43,050</u>



**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2024**

	2024	2023
	£	£
7. Resourcing Mission & Property Officers		
2 District Officers (part-time)	22,955	21,205
- RMO Salary - £8,928		
- RMO Social security - nil		
- RMO Pension – £536 £9,464		
- PO Salary - £12,309		
- PO Social Security - £443		
- PO Pension – £739 £13,491		
Expenses including travel, phone calls etc	<u>1,037</u>	<u>1,778</u>
	23,992	22,983
Reimbursed from District Advance Fund	<u>(23,992)</u>	<u>(22,983)</u>
	—	—
8. Synod Expenses		
District Directory	-	377
Miscellaneous costs	652	-
Miscellaneous travel	<u>524</u>	<u>451</u>
	<u>1,176</u>	<u>828</u>
9. District Manse Expenses		
Council tax	3,366	3,235
Water rates	219	473
Insurance	1,684	1,567
Telephone	924	782
Miscellaneous expenses, boiler, security, etc	<u>362</u>	<u>706</u>
	<u>6,555</u>	<u>6,763</u>
10. Provision for Manse Repairs		
Balance as at 31 st August 2023	12,470	10,620
Amount transferred in the year	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>
Balance as at 31 st August 2024	15,470	13,620
Major expenditure during the year	<u>-</u>	<u>1,150</u>
	<u>15,470</u>	<u>12,470</u>
11. Training expenditure		
Total paid out for Training Grants	1,907	1,470
Residential Conferences, Training courses etc	<u>17,069</u>	<u>21,309</u>
	18,976	22,779
Reimbursed from District Advance Fund	<u>(18,976)</u>	<u>(22,779)</u>
Cost to District Expenses	—	—
12. Ecumenical payments		
Churches Together in Surrey	733	744
Kent Workplace Mission	15,000	10,000
Kent Leaders breakfast	-	<u>68</u>
	<u>15,733</u>	<u>10,812</u>



**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2024**

	2024	2023
	£	£
13. Other expenditure		
Youth Conference – 3Generate	291	1,778
Copyright	421	249
Employment advice	2,215	2,719
Independent Exam. fee	2,700	2,100
Apprenticeship Levy	418	466
Administration and bank charges	86	89
MCF Assessment shortfall	0	218
Gibraltar Methodist Circuit exp.	0	3,214
District 'New Places for New People' Project	<u>775</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>6,906</u>	<u>10,833</u>

14. Reimbursements

No employee earned £60,000 per annum or more.

The average number of employees, analysed by function, was:

	2024	2023
F/T Administration of the charity	1	1
F/T District Safeguarding Officer	1	1
Half-time District Resourcing Mission/Property Officers	1	1

The Chair of S E District chairs meetings of the District Council and provides key management of the charity. The stipend, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions of the Chair of District are paid by the Methodist Connexion. Members of the District Council are the Trustees of the Charity and work with the Chair of District to manage the Charity.

15. Payments to Trustees

Expenses were reimbursed to Trustees for their travelling and out of pocket expenses.

No. of Trustees		Amount Reimbursed	
2024	2023	2024	2023
13	14	£11,911	£12,093

16. Ultimate controlling party

The ultimate controlling party of the District is considered to be the Annual Conference of the Methodist Church.

17. Related parties

The related parties of the District are seventeen Circuits, their Chapels and Manses, which are all based in the south-eastern segment of England including the whole of Kent and most of Surrey and Sussex and includes small areas of Berkshire and Hampshire and the Circuits in Malta and Gibraltar. They are contactable via the principal office of the District. Funds are transferred from Circuits to the District on a quarterly basis.

During the year, no transactions took place with related parties (as defined by Financial Reporting Standard No. 33).

18. Capital commitments

	2024	2023
At 31 st August 2024 the District had the following Capital Commitments:	Nil	Nil



**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2024**

19. Expenses related to Malta & Gibraltar

Each year, expenses incurred relating to members of the churches in Malta & Gibraltar travelling to District meetings are paid for by Methodist Church Fund so are not included in our SOFA. The amount for year 2024 is £4,859 (2023 £1,044).

20. Funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL
Brought forward	586,675	97,537	684,212
Income	206,764	564,816	771,580
Expenditure	(189,535)	(609,208)	(798,743)
Other gains/losses	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Carried forward	603,904	53,145	657,049

District Advance Fund (included in Restricted Funds)

Many of the Grants agreed relate to future years and under the accounting requirements funds have been set aside for this purpose.

21. Funds (prior year)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL
Brought forward	589,717	167,834	757,551
Income	214,203	398,142	612,345
Expenditure	(217,245)	(468,439)	(685,684)
Other gains/losses	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Carried forward	586,675	97,537	684,212

22. Reconciliation of net cash provided by/(used by) operating activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net expenditure for the reporting period	(27,163)	(73,339)
Interest received	(56,058)	(28,865)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	8,518	(15,801)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>230,803</u>	<u>165,131</u>
	<u>156,100</u>	<u>47,126</u>

THE METHODIST CHURCH: SOUTH-EAST DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1130274

Accounts



Registered Charity number 1130274

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

**For the year ended
31st August 2023**



District Trustees

Rev David Hinchliffe (Chair)
Rev Deborah Cornish (Assistant Chair) (resigned 31 August, 2023)
Rev Helen Hollands (Assistant Chair)
Rev Samantha Funnell (Assistant Chair)
Rev Daniel Balsdon (Assistant Chair)
Mrs Pauline Newton (District Treasurer)
Rev Nicholas Oborski (Synod Secretary)
Rev. William Fletcher (appointed September 2023)
Mrs Jennifer Gandy
Ms Jenny Jackson
Rev Sydney Samuel Lake
Deacon Michelle Legumi (appointed September, 2023)
Rev Bonni-Belle Pickard
Miss Bridget Quint (appointed September, 2022)
Rev Andrew Reed
Mrs. Linda Weedon (appointed 7 September, 2022)
Mr Alan Wood (resigned September, 2022)

Principal Office

District Office, Unit 4b Basepoint Business Centre
Metcalf Way, Crawley, West Sussex RH11 7XX

Independent Examiner

Azets Audit Services
2nd Floor, Regis House, 45 King William Street, London, EC4R 9AN

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc, PO Box 1000, BX1 1LT

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street, London EC2A 4PE

**Investment Managers
and Custodian Trustees**

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2023

The Trustees submit their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2023. These are presented annually to the District Synod. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015) Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued on 16th July 2014 and Update Bulletin 1 issued 2nd February 2016, in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the Charity.

Objectives and Activities

The District is constituted to advance the mission of the Church in the South-East District by providing opportunities for circuits to work together and support each other, by offering them resources and finance, personnel and expertise which may not be available locally. The District also serves the local churches and circuits in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Church in programmes of training.

Objectives

The District came into being as a new Methodist District on the 1st September 2006. The main objectives set out were:

- To support and encourage the circuits in mission and worship as members of a world-wide church and global community;
- To develop pastoral care of lay and ordained staff living and working in the circuits and of the lay officers of the District;
- To work together to share ministry, leadership and responsibility and encourage these ways of working in the circuits.

Activities and Achievements

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are as follows: 'The Methodist Church believes that the Church is called to serve the purpose of the reign of God through its worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism. Within this purpose the South-East Methodist District will concentrate on what it can uniquely and best do to promote excellence and creativity in worship, mission, ministry, oversight and governance in local churches, circuits and their communities.'

Since its Representative Synod in April 2022, the South-East District has been working towards fulfilling its Mission Plan entitled "Inspire – Enable – Encourage". In summary, the Mission Plan affirms that:

"In playing its part in seeking to fulfil Our Calling as Methodist people, and inspired by the Methodist Way of Life, the purpose of the South-East District is to **Inspire, Enable and Encourage.**"

Inspire

The South-East Methodist District seeks to inspire us to be faithful disciples, bearing witness to God's love for the sake of the transformation of the world.

Enable

The South-East District seeks to enable our calling to be a people faithful to God in mission through offering **good governance**.



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2023

Activities and Achievements (continued)

Encourage

The South-East District wants to encourage circuits, churches and individual disciples to live out their calling as followers of Jesus Christ.

The South-East Methodist District therefore commits itself in the following ways:

Our Commitment

The Methodist Church invites us to recognise that in God for all:

- All need to be **Centred in God**
- **Everyone is an Evangelist**
- Our desire is to develop **Transformational Leadership**
- We have the opportunity to cultivate **New Places for New People**
- We take seriously our missional need to be a **Church at the Margins**
- We seek for **Every Church a Growing Church**
- We commit to **Developing Young Evangelists, Pioneers, and Leaders**
- We need to create an effective **Digital Presence: Mission for the Digital Age**

The Next Steps

- Develop our work amongst **refugees, migrants, displaced persons**
- Develop **an international twinning relationship** with the Methodist Church's *Global Relationships* team
- Ensure the development of **an effective digital strategy** for mission
- Continue to encourage and support churches and circuits developing **new housing mission**
- Identify and support the opportunities to develop **new places for new people**
- Support **the development of children and youth work** in the District by advocacy for 3Generate and for Methodists to engage with schools in their communities
- Enable the District, circuits and churches to promote, celebrate and inhabit the call to **equality, diversity and inclusion** within the life of the Church for the sake of the world
- Seek to **inspire, enable and encourage** the Methodist people to be the people God calls us to be!

In the fulfilling of this revised District Mission Plan:

* Our Officer for Refugees, Migrants and Displaced Persons continues working with a network of knowledge and volunteers through Church, NGOs and statutory authorities across the South-East in recognition of the significant numbers of cross-Channel migrants coming into the District, as well as a significant number of British Overseas Nationals arriving from Hong Kong which, in one case in the District, trebled the size of a congregation in one year.

* Our two officers for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion continue to assist the District, Circuits and Churches to reflect on how to effectively implement the Methodist Church's *Justice, Dignity and Solidarity* strategy through offering a number of online seminars.

* The District has begun a review of all District and Circuit lay employees' roles, terms and conditions, contracts etc in order to ensure best lay employment practice is being consistently followed across the District. We are grateful to the District Lay Employment Advisor and to the working group assisting in this work.

General

***Worship life.** As churches have re-opened they have reflected on the value of online presence and many churches have continued to live-stream or pre-record for streaming acts of worship. The District itself continues to review its own digital resources and policy.



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2023

Activities and Achievements (continued)

* **Pastoral care** remains at the heart of being a caring, Christian community. The District remains indebted to its ministers, and to the many lay workers and pastoral visitors who offer pastoral care across the churches and circuits.

* **Finance.** The District, churches and circuits continue to monitor their finances in the light of the need for robust reserves policies and the need for wealthier churches and circuits to support their poorer neighbours. Nevertheless, the District is pleased that it has continued to be able to award grants from the District Advance Fund to ministers, churches and circuits – reflecting the vibrancy of mission and witness across the District, and the willingness of God’s people to be adventurous in their plans for mission and service.

* **Community service.** Churches have been active in supporting vulnerable members and neighbours, as well as supporting increasingly needed foodbanks. Given the rising cost of living (food and energy costs, for example), many churches across the District took part in the Winter Warm Spaces initiative, offering warmth, welcome and hospitality to many communities. In numerous cases the District was able to support this work by the offering of grants to contribute towards the cost of heating premises for this initiative, and to provide food at no cost to the recipient.

* **Training.** This has been offered online, and in person, with the Southern and Islands Learning Network offering many imaginative online training opportunities. The numbers attending online training has been significantly higher than the numbers pre-pandemic attending training in person. Safeguarding ‘Training the Trainers’ has been offered online and the Safeguarding “Foundation” and “Advanced” modules are now available for online delivery, as well as in-person delivery. The District Safeguarding Team along with the Learning Network Team have been working hard to ensure that those required to undertake Safeguarding Advanced Module Training have been able to complete it by the Connexionally-set deadline. We continue to be very grateful for their hard work and imagination.

* **Mutual support.** The District’s superintendents have continued to meet weekly with the Chair and Assistant Chairs via Zoom in order to share best practice and offer mutual support and encouragement to each other. The Superintendents have also met twice residentially during this year. The District “Under Fives Group” (those in early years in ministry) has continued to meet regularly via Zoom and now in person for mutual support and encouragement. Joining with the London District, the “Under Fives Group” were able to meet for a residential retreat in Malta (part of the South-East District) in February, exploring the theme of ‘In the footsteps of St. Paul.’

* **District Meetings.** The District Leadership Team and the District Council have been able to assess which meetings helpfully and of necessity need to meet in person, and which meetings can now meet online. The emerging pattern of meetings has led to a reduction in costs (especially of travel). It has also made a contribution to the reduction in the District’s **carbon footprint** as a result of the reduction in travelling.

* **District Advance Fund.** As noted above, the District Advance Fund has been able to offer training grants, as well as grants to mission projects in churches and circuits. The District Council has set aside funds from the District Advance Fund to create three new posts in partnership with circuits, where each post will be 2/3 time working in an area of new housing as a missional practitioner developing a new initiative and 1/3 time as a consultant and advocate for mission in new housing areas around the District. The funding will be initially for three years, potentially extended to five years. The South Kent Circuit’s New Housing Missioner commenced his post on 1st September 2020. This is already bearing fruit in the relationships he is building up with new arrivals on the Chilmington Green estate in Ashford, Kent. The District is keen to partner in such schemes with two other circuits, and is in conversation with at least one circuit as they explore the possibilities. Grants have also been made available for young people to attend the Methodist Church’s national youth



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2023

Activities and Achievements (continued)

assembly, “3 Generate.” As noted above, the District Advance Fund was able to offer a number of small grants to support the winter Warm Spaces initiative. It is planned to do so again next year.

*** District Officers and Support Teams.** The District continues to be grateful for the work of the District Resourcing Mission Officer, District Safeguarding Officer, the District Property Officer and District Administrator, in their support of the life of the District, Circuits and local churches in the fulfilment of their responsibilities.

The District has worked hard to fill vacant volunteer posts. In particular it has sought to recruit new members for the District Reconciliation Panel and complaints support group. We are planning training for these groups in conjunction with neighbouring Districts.

During the year we have undertaken a major review of the District Safeguarding Officer role and have begun the process of recruiting additional safeguarding officer support. We have continued to recruit additional members of The District Safeguarding Group, which seeks to oversee safeguarding practice in the District. A key priority remains to learn from the IICSA report and any forthcoming recommendations.

The implementation of GDPR is an on-going piece of work in line with guidance from TMCP.

The ongoing activity of the District includes work such as: vocational work with candidates for ordained ministry; oversight of probationers; re-invitation and stationing; complaints and discipline; property consents and grant making. We continue to work through the impact of the decisions of the Methodist Conference in relation to oversight and trusteeship, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and marriage and relationships – amongst many other decisions. Through it all, we will seek to serve the present age, as a Christian presence across the South East of England and in Malta and Gibraltar.

Finally, the District Chair wishes to honour and celebrate the skill, imagination, grace and commitment of so many faithful servants of Christ across the District who have enabled the Church to flourish even amidst a pandemic. He is especially grateful to the District’s Assistant Chairs, and to his PA, and to the remarkable number of District Officers who continue to serve the Church faithfully, imaginatively and with good cheer.

Fundraising

The District does not actively fundraise from the general public.

Financial Review

Investment Policy

The surplus funds of the District’s General Funds are held in a deposit account of the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, which is a separate body reporting directly to Conference. The surplus funds of the District Advance Fund are held in an account with The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees’ objective is to maintain net current assets in Unrestricted Reserves equivalent to approximately four months’ Resources expended. The Trustees maintain the Restricted Reserves at a sufficient level to enable each Fund to carry out its objectives.

District Expenses Account

The Net Resources showed an excess of expenditure over income of £3,042 (2022 excess of income over expenditure of £24,024) after setting aside a sum of £3,000 towards future repairs to the District Manse.



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2023

Financial Review (continued)

Chair's Benevolent Fund

This is a small fund which relies on donations from Churches, Circuits and individuals, which allows the District Chair to make payments to those the Chair feels are deserving of a Grant. Donations totalling £364 were received during the year and £250 was paid out in grants. The Fund only spends monies which it has available to it and at 31st August 2023 the balance carried forward was £1,431. (2022 £1,317). These funds are accounted for as restricted funds within the District Expenses bank account at Lloyds Bank.

District Advance Fund

After receiving Circuit levies of £240,197, £32,951 from the Connexional Priority Fund, grants and donations of £98,778 and Interest and Investment income of £25,852, the Trustees were able to make Grants totalling £226,301 and also transfers totalling £76,778 to the Expenses Account as follows: £22,779 relating to Training, £10,763 to District Safeguarding expenses, £967 to Refugee & Inter-faith expenditure, £10,317 to our Resourcing Mission Officer, £12,666 to our District Property Officer and £19,000 to Circuits to help with provision of 'Warm Spaces'.

Many of the Grants agreed relate to future years and under the accounting requirements, £629,650 has been set aside for this purpose. £96,106 (2022 £166,517) is carried forward into the new Connexional Year. The funding from the London Mission Fund (LMF) continues to be channelled through our District Advance Fund and £88,790 has been received and passed on to Circuits.

Plans for Future Periods

We continue to review our Budget and hold several committee meetings on-line in order to reduce travel costs. As mentioned under District Advance Fund, the new arrangements continue for the way the London Mission Fund makes grant payments and we anticipate a grant allocation of £71,145 in the year 23/24. The District Advance Fund will continue to receive Circuit Levies and a Grant from the Connexional Priority Fund when the District is eligible. This will enable the Grants Committee to offer Grants in year 2023/2024 depending on the quantity of the requests received. The Benevolent Fund will continue to consider requests to spend the resources available.

Structure, Governance and Trustees' Responsibilities

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Charity 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 Charity and of its financial activities for that period, together with its assets and liabilities at the end of the period, and adequately distinguish any material special trust or other restricted fund of the Charity. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable Accounting Standards, 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 operation.

Legal and administrative information

The governing body of the District is the Methodist Church and the governing body of the Methodist



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2023

Structure, Governance and Trustees' Responsibilities (continued)

Church is the Conference. The Methodist Church Act 1976 gives the authority under which the Methodist Church acts. The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church governs the activities of the District. The District is a Registered Charity and was registered with the Charity Commission on 10th June 2009.

Trustees

The Trustees who have served during the year and those appointed since are set out on page 1. Trustees are appointed by the Autumn Synod.

The Trustees are responsible for the detailed examination of the financial statements and for recommending their adoption to Synod.

The District is one of twenty nine Districts of the Methodist Church in the United Kingdom. The South-East District brings together seventeen Circuits, their Chapels and Manses based in the south eastern segment of England including the whole of Kent, most of Surrey and Sussex, small areas of Berkshire and Hampshire and includes the Circuits in Malta & Gibraltar. They are contactable via the principal office of the District.

Internal Financial Controls

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that there is in place an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise, to provide reasonable confidence and assurance that:

- the District's administration is operating effectively and efficiently;
- the assets of the District are properly safeguarded against unauthorised loss or damage;
- proper records are maintained and information produced for management control, fiscal and statutory reasons; and
- the District complies with the relevant laws and guidelines.

Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the major strategic business and operational risks which the charity faces, and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to monitor these risks.

District Independent Examiner

Azets Audit Services was appointed Independent Examiner of District Funds by the District Council.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 7th December, 2023.

Rev David Hinchliffe
District Chair and Trustee

Mrs. Pauline J Newton
District Treasurer and Trustee



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church South-East District

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church South-East District

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023, which are set out on pages 9 – 18.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

John Howard FCA
Azets Audit Services
2nd Floor
Regis House
45 King William Street
London
EC4R 9AN

Date: 12 December, 2023

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31st August 2023

Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds		Total Funds	
		Expenses Account	Advance Fund	Benevolent Fund	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources					
Assessments	211,190	-	-	211,190	204,772
Interest & Investment Income	3,013	25,852	-	28,865	3,790
Circuit Levies	-	240,197	-	240,197	245,997
Grant/Donations	-	98,778	364	99,142	80,661
CPF Distribution received	-	32,951	-	32,951	9,936
Total incoming resources	<u>214,203</u>	<u>397,778</u>	<u>364</u>	<u>612,345</u>	<u>545,156</u>
Resources expended on managing and administering the Charity					
District Administration	5	84,943	-	-	84,943
Contributions to Circuits for Assistant Chairs		44,310	-	-	44,310
District Safeguarding expenses	6	43,050	10,763	-	53,813
Resourcing Mission/Property	7	-	22,983	-	22,983
Refugee & Inter-faith exp.		-	286	-	286
Synod Meeting expenses	8	828	-	-	828
Manse Expenditure	9	6,763	-	-	6,763
Provision for Manse repairs	10	3,000	-	-	3,000
District Committee Expenses		11,807	-	-	11,807
Training Grants & Expenses	11	-	22,779	-	22,779
Methodist Conference		899	-	-	899
Ecumenical payments	12	10,812	-	-	10,812
Other expenditure	13	10,833	19,967	-	30,800
		217,245	76,778	-	294,023
				225,322	
Grants and payments made in furtherance of the Charity's Objects					
Grants & donations		-	226,301	250	226,551
Increase (Reduction) in Provision for future years payments		-	163,281	-	163,281
Miscellaneous		-	1,829	-	1,829
Total Resources Expended		<u>217,245</u>	<u>468,189</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>685,684</u>
				<u>685,684</u>	<u>340,943</u>
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources before Transfers					
		(3,042)	(70,411)	114	(73,339)
Transfer between Funds		-	-	-	-
Unresolved gains & losses on investments		-	-	-	-
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources after Transfers		(3,042)	(70,411)	114	(73,339)
				(73,339)	204,213
Funds brought forward		<u>589,717</u>	<u>166,517</u>	<u>1,317</u>	<u>757,551</u>
				<u>757,551</u>	<u>553,338</u>
Total Funds carried forward		<u>586,675</u>	<u>96,106</u>	<u>1,431</u>	<u>684,212</u>
				<u>684,212</u>	<u>757,551</u>

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31st August 2022 (prior year)

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Total Funds
		Expenses Account	Advance Fund	Benevolent Fund	2022	
		£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources						
Assessments		204,772	-	-	-	204,772
Dormant Funds HSBC Area 4 LSW Dist.		-	-	-	-	-
Interest & Investment Income		360	3,430	-	-	3,790
Circuit Levies		-	245,997	-	-	245,997
Grant/Donations		-	79,921	740	-	80,661
CPF Distribution received		-	9,936	-	-	9,936
Total incoming resources		205,132	339,284	740	-	545,156
Resources expended on managing and administering the Charity						
District Administration	5	78,724	-	-	-	78,724
Contributions to Circuits for Assistant Chairs		42,570	-	-	-	42,570
District Safeguarding expenses	6	35,442	8,860	-	-	44,302
Resourcing Mission Officer	7	-	17,360	-	-	17,360
Refugee & Inter-faith exp.		-	328	-	-	328
Synod Meeting expenses	8	1,230	-	-	-	1,230
Manse Expenditure	9	7,513	-	-	-	7,513
Provision for Manse repairs	10	3,000	-	-	-	3,000
District Committee Expenses		6,966	-	-	-	6,966
Training Grants & Expenses	11	-	16,349	-	-	16,349
Methodist Conference		894	-	-	-	894
Ecumenical payments	12	534	-	-	-	534
Computer exp.		-	-	-	-	-
Other expenditure	13	5,552	-	-	-	5,552
		182,425	42,897	-	-	225,322
Grants and payments made in furtherance of the Charity's Objects						
Grants & donations		-	169,255	700	-	169,955
Increase (Reduction) in Provision for future years payments		-	(55,805)	-	-	(55,805)
Miscellaneous		-	1,471	-	-	1,471
Total Resources Expended		182,425	157,818	700	-	340,943
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources before Transfers						
		22,707	181,466	40	-	204,213
Transfer between Funds		-	-	-	-	-
Unresolved gains & losses on investments		-	-	-	-	-
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources after Transfers		22,707	181,466	40	-	204,213
Funds brought forward		567,010	(14,949)	1,277	-	553,338
Total Funds carried forward		589,717	166,517	1,317	-	757,551

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2023

		Unrestricted	Restricted		Totals	
	Notes		Advance Fund	Benevolent Fund	2023 £	2022 £
Tangible Fixed Assets						
District Manse	2	501,663	-	-	501,663	501,663
 Current Assets						
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes Debtor	3	-	709,955	-	709,955	632,886
Cash at Bank and Central Finance Board		97,482	-	1,431	98,913	99,991
Total current Assets		97,482	725,756	1,431	824,669	732,877
 Creditors and Accruals						
District Advance Fund – provision for amounts falling due in future years	4	-	(629,650)	-	(629,650)	(466,369)
Provision for Manse repairs	10	(12,470)	-	-	(12,470)	(10,620)
Total current assets less current liabilities		85,012	96,106	1,431	182,549	255,888
 Total Net Assets		 586,675	 96,106	 1,431	 684,212	 757,551
 Funds of the District						
General Fund (Unrestricted)		586,675	-	-	586,675	589,717
District Advance Fund (Restricted)		-	96,106	-	96,106	166,517
Benevolent Fund (Restricted)		-	-	1,431	1,431	1,317
Total Funds	21	<u>586,675</u>	<u>96,106</u>	<u>1,431</u>	<u>684,212</u>	<u>757,551</u>

The notes on pages 14 to 18 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 7th December, 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

David Hinchliffe
District Chair and Trustee

Mrs. Pauline J Newton
District Treasurer and Trustee

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2022 (prior year)

		Unrestricted	Restricted		
	Notes		Advance Fund	Benevolent Fund	Totals 2022
					£
Tangible Fixed Assets					
District Manse	2	501,663	-	-	501,663
 Current Assets					
Debtors & Prepayments	3	-	-	-	-
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		-	632,886	-	632,886
Cash at Bank and Central Finance Board		<u>98,674</u>	-	<u>1,317</u>	<u>99,991</u>
Total current Assets		98,674	632,886	1,317	732,877
 Creditors and Accruals					
District Advance Fund – provision for amounts					
Falling due in future years	4	-	(466,369)	-	(466,369)
Creditor		-	-	-	-
Provision for Manse repairs	10	<u>(10,620)</u>	-	-	<u>(10,620)</u>
Total current assets less current liabilities		88,054	166,517	1,317	255,888
 Total Net Assets		 <u>589,717</u>	<u>166,517</u>	<u>1,317</u>	<u>757,551</u>
 Funds of the District					
General Fund (Unrestricted)		589,717	-	-	589,717
District Advance Fund (Restricted)		-	166,517	-	166,517
Other Funds (Restricted)		-	-	<u>1,317</u>	<u>1,317</u>
Total Funds	21	<u>589,717</u>	<u>166,517</u>	<u>1,317</u>	<u>757,551</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 8th December, 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

David Hinchliffe
District Chair and Trustee

Mrs. Pauline J Newton
District Treasurer and Trustee

Cashflow Statement as at 31st August 2023

Statement of Cashflows

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Net cash generated from/(used by) operating activities	23	47,126	147,618
Cashflows from investing activities:			
Interest from investments		<u>28,865</u>	<u>3,790</u>
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents		75,991	151,408
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>732,877</u>	<u>581,469</u>
Cash & cash equivalents at end of year		<u>808,868</u>	<u>732,877</u>
Cash at bank and in hand		98,913	99,991
Short term deposits		<u>709,955</u>	<u>632,886</u>
		<u>808,868</u>	<u>732,877</u>



Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2023

1. Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16th July 2014 and Update Bulletin 1 issued on 2nd February 2016.

Going Concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31st August 2023 the Trustees believe that the District is a going concern.

Funds

The funds held constitute General Funds held for any purpose of the District and are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and Restricted Funds which are held for a narrower purpose.

Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Depreciation has not been provided on freehold land and buildings because the trustees consider the residual value of the manse is not less than cost and the depreciation would be immaterial.

Incoming Resources

These are included in the SOFA when the District becomes entitled to the resources; the Trustees are virtually certain that they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Liability Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the District to make the payment. With regard to the District Advance Fund, a note of the Contingent Liability is set out in Note 4 to these Accounts.

Provisions

An annual provision is made for major expenditure on manse repairs, with such expenditure being deducted from the accumulated provision when it is incurred.

Debtors

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the District or prepaid.

Gains/(losses) on investments

The investments are in monetary assets and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value are those provided by TMCP. Realised and unrealised capital gains and losses on investments are dealt with in the SOFA in the year in which they arise, based on the brought forward valuations or cost of subsequent additions.

Estimates and judgements

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.



**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2023**

	2023	2022
	£	£
2. Fixed Assets		
Freehold land and building		
Deemed Cost		
District manse – as at 31 st August 2023	501,663	501,663
Land £167,221 Building £334,442		
3. Debtors and Prepayments		
Duplicate payment to a Circuit by TMCP in error (The Circuit returned this to TMCP on 04.09.23)	15,801	-
4. Creditors and Accruals		
District Advance Fund		
Provision for Grants committed or payable in future years, balance as at 31 st August	466,369	522,174
Increase (reduction) in provision for future payments	163,281	(55,805)
	Payable	Payable
	2023-24	2024 onwards
	£259,468	£370,182
Total Provision as at 31 st August	<u>629,650</u>	<u>466,369</u>
5. District Administration		
Chair's travel and miscellaneous expenses	3,474	2,993
Secretarial and Administration	41,129	40,768
- Salary - £35,354		
- Social security - £3,677		
- Pension - £2,098		
District Office rent	30,300	28,220
District Office expenses, printing, stationery, post, Phone, etc	<u>10,040</u>	<u>6,743</u>
	<u>84,943</u>	<u>78,724</u>
6. District Safeguarding Expenses		
District Officer	44,625	42,864
- Salary - £38,247		
- Social security - £4,083		
- Pension - £2,295		
Additional costs incurred	<u>9,188</u>	<u>1,438</u>
	53,813	44,302
Reimbursed from District Advance Fund	<u>(10,763)</u>	<u>(8,860)</u>
Cost to District Expenses	<u>43,050</u>	<u>35,442</u>



**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2023**

	2023	2022
	£	£
7. Resourcing Mission & Property Officers		
2 District Officers (part-time)	21,205	16,350
- RMO Salary - £8,281		
- RMO Social security - nil		
- RMO Pension – £497 £8,778		
- PO Salary - £11,417		
- PO Social Security - £325		
- PO Pension – £685 £12,427		
Expenses including travel, phone calls etc	<u>1,778</u>	<u>1,010</u>
	22,983	17,360
Reimbursed from District Advance Fund	<u>(22,983)</u>	<u>(17,360)</u>
	—	—
8. Synod Expenses		
District Directory & miscellaneous printing and stationery	377	760
Miscellaneous costs	-	-
Miscellaneous travel and Ministerial Synod expenses	<u>451</u>	<u>470</u>
	<u>828</u>	<u>1,230</u>
9. District Manse Expenses		
Council tax	3,235	3,105
Water rates	473	635
Insurance	1,567	1,373
Telephone	782	682
Miscellaneous expenses, boiler, security, etc	<u>706</u>	<u>1,718</u>
	<u>6,763</u>	<u>7,513</u>
10. Provision for Manse Repairs		
Balance as at 31 st August 2022	10,620	7,620
Amount transferred in the year	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>
Balance as at 31 st August 2023	13,620	10,620
Major expenditure during the year	<u>1,150</u>	-
	<u>12,470</u>	<u>10,620</u>
11. Training expenditure		
Total paid out for Training Grants	1,470	182
Residential Conferences, Training courses etc	<u>21,309</u>	<u>16,167</u>
	22,779	16,349
Less:		
Contribution from attendees	<u>0</u>	<u>1,496</u>
	22,779	14,853
Reimbursed from District Advance Fund	<u>(22,779)</u>	<u>(14,853)</u>
Cost to District Expenses	—	—
12. Ecumenical payments		
Churches Together in Surrey	744	534
Kent Workplace Mission	10,000	-
Kent Leaders breakfast	<u>68</u>	—
	<u>10,812</u>	<u>534</u>



**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2023**

	2023	2022
	£	£
13. Other expenditure		
Youth Conference – 3Generate	1,778	1,944
Copyright	249	237
Website	0	299
Employment advice	2,719	1,345
Independent Exam. fee	2,100	1,200
Apprenticeship Levy	466	434
Administration and bank charges	89	93
MCF Assessment shortfall	218	-
Gibraltar Methodist Circuit exp.	<u>3,214</u>	<u>-</u>
	10,833	5,552

14. Reimbursements

No employee earned £60,000 per annum or more.

The average number of employees, analysed by function, was:

	2023	2022
F/T Administration of the charity	1	1
F/T District Safeguarding Officer	1	1
Half-time District Resourcing Mission/Property Officers	1	1

The Chair of S E District chairs meetings of the District Council and provides key management of the charity. The stipend, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions of the Chair of District are paid by the Methodist Connexion. Members of the District Council are the Trustees of the Charity and work with the Chair of District to manage the Charity.

15. Payments to Trustees

Expenses were reimbursed to Trustees for their travelling and out of pocket expenses.

No. of Trustees		Amount Reimbursed	
2023	2022	2023	2022
14	14	£12,093	£7,657

16. Ultimate controlling party

The ultimate controlling party of the District is considered to be the Annual Conference of the Methodist Church.

17. Related parties

The related parties of the District are seventeen Circuits, their Chapels and Manses, which are all based in the south-eastern segment of England including the whole of Kent and most of Surrey and Sussex and includes small areas of Berkshire and Hampshire and the Circuits in Malta and Gibraltar. They are contactable via the principal office of the District. Funds are transferred from Circuits to the District on a quarterly basis.

During the year, no transactions took place with related parties (as defined by Financial Reporting Standard No. 33).

18. Capital commitments

	2023	2022
At 31 st August 2023 the District had the following Capital Commitments:	Nil	Nil



Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2023

19. Synod collection

There was no collection this year for the Methodist Ministers' Children's Relief Association.

20. Expenses related to Malta & Gibraltar

Each year District expenses incurred relating to members of the churches in Malta & Gibraltar are paid for by Methodist Church Fund so are not included in our SOFA. The amount for year 2023 is £1,044 (2022 £5,020).

21. Funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL
Brought forward	589,717	167,834	757,551
Income	214,203	398,142	612,345
Expenditure	(217,245)	(468,439)	(685,684)
Other gains/losses	-	-	-
Carried forward	586,675	97,537	684,212

District Advance Fund (included in Restricted Funds)

Many of the Grants agreed relate to future years and under the accounting requirements funds have been set aside for this purpose.

22. Funds (prior year)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL
Brought forward	567,010	(13,672)	553,338
Income	205,132	340,024	545,156
Expenditure	(182,425)	(158,518)	(340,943)
Other gains/losses	-	-	-
Carried forward	589,717	167,834	757,551

23. Reconciliation of net cash provided by/(used by) operating activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Net expenditure for the reporting period	(73,339)	204,213
Interest received	(28,865)	(3,790)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(15,801)	-
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	165,131	(52,805)
	<u>47,126</u>	<u>147,618</u>

THE METHODIST CHURCH: SOUTH-EAST DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1130274

Accounts



Registered Charity number 1130274

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

**For the year ended
31st August 2022**



District Trustees

Rev David Hinchliffe (Chair)
Rev Deborah Cornish (Assistant Chair)
Rev Helen Hollands (Assistant Chair)
Rev Samantha Funnell (Assistant Chair)
Mrs Pauline Newton (District Treasurer)
Rev Nicholas Oborski (Synod Secretary) (appointed 7 September, 2021)
Mrs Shelagh Morgan (Synod Secretary) (resigned 30 April, 2022)
Rev Daniel Balsdon
Mr Jack Delbridge (resigned September, 2022)
Rev Anne Ellis (resigned August, 2022)
Mrs Jennifer Gandy (appointed 16 September, 2020)
Ms Jenny Jackson (appointed 18 September, 2021)
Rev Sydney Samuel Lake
Rev Bonni-Belle Pickard (appointed 18 September, 2021)
Miss Bridget Quint (appointed September, 2022)
Rev Andrew Reed
Deacon Bryanell Rop (resigned April, 2022)
Mrs. Linda Weedon (appointed 7 September, 2022)
Mr Alan Wood (resigned September, 2022)
Mr Michael Barton Woodhouse (resigned September, 2021)

Principal Office

District Office, Unit 4b Basepoint Business Centre
Metcalf Way, Crawley, West Sussex RH11 7XX

Independent Examiner

Azets Audit Services
2nd Floor, Regis House, 45 King William Street, London, EC4R 9AN

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc, PO Box 1000, BX1 1LT

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street, London EC2A 4PE

**Investment Managers
and Custodian Trustees**

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2022

The Trustees submit their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2022. These are presented annually to the District Synod. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015) Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued on 16th July 2014 and Update Bulletin 1 issued 2nd February 2016, in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the Charity.

Objectives and Activities

The District is constituted to advance the mission of the Church in the South-East District by providing opportunities for circuits to work together and support each other, by offering them resources and finance, personnel and expertise which may not be available locally. The District also serves the local churches and circuits in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Church in programmes of training.

Objectives

The District came into being as a new Methodist District on the 1st September 2006. The main objectives set out were:

- To support and encourage the circuits in mission and worship as members of a world-wide church and global community;
- To develop pastoral care of lay and ordained staff living and working in the circuits and of the lay officers of the District;
- To work together to share ministry, leadership and responsibility and encourage these ways of working in the circuits.

Activities and Achievements

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

In April 2016, the Synod agreed the District Development plan for 2016-20 in which we stated our purpose: 'The Methodist Church believes that the Church is called to serve the purpose of the reign of God through its worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism. Within this purpose the South-East Methodist District will concentrate on what it can uniquely and best do to promote excellence and creativity in worship, mission, ministry, oversight and governance in local churches, circuits and their communities.'

We affirmed that we intend to achieve this by encouraging and resourcing local churches and circuits and "connecting the Connexion". This work is on-going. In June 2020, following on from the District Development Plan 2016-20, the District Council initiated a District Mission Plan review in order to

- ensure the District's mission plan is appropriate and effective;
- to reflect upon the impact of Covid-19 upon the mission of the District, Circuits and Churches in the South-East District, and to
- reflect on the report *God For All* which was accepted by the Methodist Conference of 2020 and to begin to explore whether the District's grant-making criteria might need to be re-written in the light of the Connexional mission priorities expressed in *God For All*.

This work has now been completed and in April 2022, the Representative District Synod approved a new Mission Plan entitled "Inspire – Encourage – Enable". In summary, the Mission Plan affirms that: "In playing its part in seeking to fulfil Our Calling as Methodist people, and inspired by the Methodist Way of Life, the purpose of the South-East District is to **Inspire, Enable and Encourage.**"



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2022

Activities and Achievements (continued)

Inspire

The South-East Methodist District seeks to inspire us to be faithful disciples, bearing witness to God's love for the sake of the transformation of the world.

Enable

The South-East District seeks to enable our calling to be a people faithful to God in mission through offering **good governance**.

Encourage

The South-East District wants to encourage circuits, churches and individual disciples to live out their calling as followers of Jesus Christ.

The South-East Methodist District therefore commits itself in the following ways:

Our Commitment

The Methodist Church invites us to recognise that in God for all:

- All need to be **Centred in God**
- **Everyone is an Evangelist**
- Our desire is to develop **Transformational Leadership**
- We have the opportunity to cultivate **New Places for New People**
- We take seriously our missional need to be a **Church at the Margins**
- We seek for **Every Church a Growing Church**
- We commit to **Developing Young Evangelists, Pioneers, and Leaders**
- We need to create an effective **Digital Presence: Mission for the Digital Age**

The Next Steps

- Develop our work amongst **refugees, migrants, displaced persons**
- Develop **an international twinning relationship** with the Methodist Church's *Global Relationships* team
- Ensure the development of **an effective digital strategy** for mission
- Continue to encourage and support churches and circuits developing **new housing mission**
- Identify and support the opportunities to develop **new places for new people**
- Support **the development of children and youth work** in the District by advocacy for 3Generate and for Methodists to engage with schools in their communities
- Enable the District, circuits and churches to promote, celebrate and inhabit the call to **equality, diversity and inclusion** within the life of the Church for the sake of the world
- Seek to **inspire, enable and encourage** the Methodist people to be the people God calls us to be!

In the fulfilling of this revised District Mission Plan, we have appointed to voluntary roles:

* An officer for Refugees, Migrants and Displaced Persons, who has been creating a network of knowledge and volunteers through Church, NGOs and statutory authorities across the South-East in recognition of the significant numbers of cross-Channel migrants coming into the District, as well as a significant number of British Overseas Nationals arriving from Hong Kong which has, in one case in the District, trebled the size of a congregation in one year.

* Two officers for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion – who are helping the District, Circuits and Churches reflect on how to effectively implement the Methodist Church's *Justice, Dignity and Solidarity* strategy.



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2022

Activities and Achievements (continued)

General

* **Covid-19.** Through the course of this year the government has removed all Covid-related restrictions. This means that local churches have been able to re-open. However, churches and circuits continue to be impacted by Covid-19. The impact is felt in lower congregational numbers, less activities and on finances at circuit and church levels. Churches and circuits continue to reflect on what the future shape of mission and ministry will be.

* **Worship life.** As churches have re-opened they have reflected on the value of online presence and many churches have continued to live-stream or pre-record for streaming acts of worship. The District itself continues to review its own digital resources and policy;

* **Pastoral care** – remains at the heart of being a caring, Christian community. The District remains indebted to its ministers, and to the many lay workers and pastoral visitors who offer pastoral care across the churches and circuits.

* **Finance** - where income has dramatically dropped for many churches (and rental income in particular), churches and circuits have continued to work through the financial impact. The District, churches and circuits continue to monitor their finances in the light of the need for robust reserves policies and the need for wealthier churches and circuits to support their poorer neighbours. Nevertheless, the District is pleased that it has continued to be able to award grants from the District Advance Fund to ministers, churches and circuits – reflecting the vibrancy of mission and witness across the District, and the willingness of God's people to be adventurous in their plans for mission and service.

* **Community service** – As churches have re-opened following the lifting of government Covid-19 restrictions, the use of premises and consequent rental income remains impacted. Churches have nevertheless been active in supporting vulnerable members and neighbours, as well as supporting increasingly needed foodbanks. Given the rising cost of living (food and energy costs, for example), many churches are exploring how they might support the most vulnerable in the months ahead.

* **Training** – this has been offered online, and in person, with the Southern and Islands Learning Network offering many imaginative online training opportunities. The numbers attending online training has been significantly higher than the numbers pre-pandemic attending training in person. Safeguarding 'Training the Trainers' has been offered online and the Safeguarding "Foundation" and "Advanced" modules are now available for online delivery. The District Safeguarding Team along with the Learning Network Team have been working hard to ensure that those required to undertake Safeguarding Advanced Module Training have been able to complete it by the Connexionally-set deadline. We continue to be very grateful for their hard work and imagination.

* **Mutual support.** The District's superintendents have continued to meet weekly with the Chair and Assistant Chairs via Zoom in order to share best practice and offer mutual support and encouragement to each other. The Superintendents have also met twice residentially during this year. The District "Under Fives Group" (those in early years in ministry) has continued to meet regularly via Zoom and now in person for mutual support and encouragement. Joining with the London District, the "Under Fives Group" were able to meet for a residential retreat in January, reflecting on the challenges of ministry in these times.

* **District Meetings.** Now that the government has lifted Covid-19 restrictions, the District Leadership Team and the District Council have been able to assess which meetings helpfully and of necessity need to meet in person, and which meetings can now meet online. The emerging pattern of meetings has led to a reduction in costs (especially of travel). It has also made a contribution to the reduction in the District's **carbon footprint** as a result of the reduction in travelling.



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2022

Activities and Achievements (continued)

* **District Advance Fund.** As noted above, the District Advance Fund has been able to offer training grants, as well as grants to mission projects in churches and circuits. The District Council has set aside funds from the District Advance Fund to create three new posts in partnership with circuits, where each post will be 2/3 time working in an area of new housing as a missional practitioner developing a new initiative and 1/3 time as a consultant and advocate for mission in new housing areas around the District. The funding will be initially for three years, potentially extended to five years. The South Kent Circuit's New Housing Missioner commenced his post on 1st September 2020. This is already bearing fruit in the relationships he is building up with new arrivals on the Chilmington Green estate in Ashford, Kent. The District is keen to partner in such schemes with two other circuits, and is in conversation with at least one circuit as they explore the possibilities. Grants have also been made available for young people to attend the Methodist Church's national youth assembly, "3 Generate."

* **District Officers and Support Teams.** The policy for Releasing Property for God's Mission is being implemented within the work of the Resourcing Mission Officers across the district, to whom we express our thanks. We were delighted that Roy Hollands was appointed as District Property Officer on 1st January 2022. The Southern and Islands Learning Network team have continued to offer a breadth of online resources to churches, circuits and across the District. The Fresh Ways Hub supports and encourages those involved in pioneering new expressions of church, mission and ministry. Consideration of the role and place of Local Lay Pastors is being explored. In partnership with the Regional Learning Network, the District Council has ensured that opportunities for learning and professional development are offered to all lay employees and that training for line managers is available. The District continues to be grateful for the work of the District Resourcing Mission Officer, District Safeguarding Officer, and District Administrator.

The District Reconciliation Panel remains able to offer advice and early intervention in situations where relationships are breaking down. The group will also meet the requirements set out for it in the complaints and discipline procedures of the Methodist Church. The strengthening of the Complaints Support Group (whose members stand alongside those who have made complaints and those who have been complained against) remains a key priority going forward.

The District Safeguarding Officer continues to be a valued resource for churches, circuits and the District, as she responds to a variety of situations and cases, as well as overseeing Safeguarding training for the District. The District Safeguarding Group's aims and objectives and membership has been reviewed and the formation of a new District Safeguarding Group is in process. The Independent Chair is in post to lead this group. A key priority will be to learn from the IICSA report and any forthcoming recommendations.

The implementation of GDPR is an on-going piece of work in line with guidance from TMCP. The time has come to review the role of the District Data Champion, now that the GDPR regulations have been embedded, to ensure that all remain GDPR-compliant.

The ongoing activity of the District includes work such as: vocational work with candidates for ordained ministry; oversight of probationers; re-invitation and stationing; complaints and discipline; property consents and grant making. We continue to work through the impact of the decisions of the Methodist Conference in relation to oversight and trusteeship, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and marriage and relationships – amongst many other decisions. Through it all, we will seek to serve the present age, as a Christian presence across the South East of England and in Malta and Gibraltar.

Finally, The District Chair wishes to honour and celebrate the skill, imagination, grace and commitment of so many faithful servants of Christ across the District who have enabled the Church



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2022

Activities and Achievements (continued)

to flourish even amidst a pandemic. He is especially grateful to the District's Assistant Chairs, and to his PA, and to the remarkable number of District Officers who, in spite of the times, continue to serve the Church faithfully, imaginatively and with good cheer.

Fundraising

The District does not actively fundraise from the general public.

Financial Review

Investment Policy

The surplus funds of the District's General Funds are held in a deposit account of the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, which is a separate body reporting directly to Conference. The surplus funds of the District Advance Fund are held in an account with The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees' objective is to maintain net current assets in Unrestricted Reserves equivalent to approximately four months' Resources expended. The Trustees maintain the Restricted Reserves at a sufficient level to enable each Fund to carry out its objectives.

District Expenses Account

The Net Resources showed an excess of Income over expenditure of £24,024 (2021 £2,539 excess expenditure over income) after setting aside a sum of £3,000 towards future repairs to the District Manse. This now includes the balance in hand for the Benevolent Fund.

Chair's Benevolent Fund

This is a small fund which relies on donations from Churches, Circuits and individuals, which allows the District Chair to make payments to those the Chair feels are deserving of a Grant. Donations totalling £740 were received during the year and £700 was paid out in grants. The Fund only spends monies which it has available to it and at 31st August 2022 the balance carried forward was £1,317. (2021 £1,277). These funds were previously held in a separate account with HSBC but are now accounted for as restricted funds within the District Expenses bank account at Lloyds Bank.

District Advance Fund

After receiving Circuit levies of £245,997, £9,936 from the Connexional Priority Fund, grants and donations of £79,921 and Interest and Investment income of £3,430, the Trustees were able to make Grants totalling £169,255 and also transfers totalling £42,897 to the Expenses Account as follows: £16,349 relating to Training, £8,860 to District Safeguarding expenses, £328 to Refugee & Inter-faith expenditure and £17,360 to our Resourcing Mission Officers.

Many of the Grants agreed relate to future years and under the accounting requirements, £466,369 has been set aside for this purpose. £166,517 (2021 £14,949 shortfall) is carried forward into the new Connexional Year. The funding from the London Mission Fund (LMF) continues to be channelled through our District Advance Fund and £62,355 has been received and passed on to Circuits.



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2022

Financial Review (continued)

Plans for Future Periods

Due to changes put in place due to COVID 19 there continues to be a reduction in the amount of travel expenses incurred by District officers as a number of meetings are still held on line. We continue to review our Budget and will reduce the Assessment imposed on Circuits in future years if our Reserves exceed the 4 months resources expended figure. As mentioned under District Advance Fund, the new arrangements continue for the way the London Mission Fund makes grant payments and we anticipate a grant allocation of £71,145 in the year 22/23. The District Advance Fund will continue to receive Circuit Levies and a Grant from the Connexional Priority Fund when the District is eligible. This will enable the Grants Committee to offer Grants in year 2022/2023 depending on the quantity of the requests received. The Benevolent Fund will continue to consider requests to spend the resources available.

Structure, Governance and Trustees' Responsibilities

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Charity 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 Charity and of its financial activities for that period, together with its assets and liabilities at the end of the period, and adequately distinguish any material special trust or other restricted fund of the Charity. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable Accounting Standards, 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 operation.

Legal and administrative information

The governing body of the District is the Methodist Church and the governing body of the Methodist Church is the Conference. The Methodist Church Act 1976 gives the authority under which the Methodist Church acts. The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church governs the activities of the District. The District is a Registered Charity and was registered with the Charity Commission on 10th June 2009.

Trustees

The Trustees who have served during the year and those appointed since are set out on page 1. Trustees are appointed by the Autumn Synod.

The Trustees are responsible for the detailed examination of the financial statements and for recommending their adoption to Synod.

The District is one of twenty nine Districts of the Methodist Church in the United Kingdom. The South-East District brings together seventeen Circuits, their Chapels and Manses based in the south



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2022

Structure, Governance and Trustees' Responsibilities (continued)

eastern segment of England including the whole of Kent, most of Surrey and Sussex, and small areas of Berkshire and Hampshire and includes the Circuits in Malta & Gibraltar. They are contactable via the principal office of the District.

Internal Financial Controls

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that there is in place an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise, to provide reasonable confidence and assurance that:

- the District's administration is operating effectively and efficiently;
- the assets of the District are properly safeguarded against unauthorised loss or damage;
- proper records are maintained and information produced for management control, fiscal and statutory reasons; and
- the District complies with the relevant laws and guidelines.

Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the major strategic business and operational risks which the charity faces, and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to monitor these risks.

District Independent Examiner

Azets Audit Services was appointed Independent Examiner of District Funds by the District Council.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 8th December, 2022.

Rev David Hinchliffe
District Chair and Trustee

Mrs. Pauline J Newton
District Treasurer and Trustee



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church South-East District

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church South-East District

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2022, which are set out on pages 10 – 19.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

John Howard FCA
Azets Audit Services
2nd Floor
Regis House
45 King William Street
London
EC4R 9AN

Date: 13th December, 2022

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31st August 2022

Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds		Total Funds	
	Expenses Account	Advance Fund	Benevolent Fund	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources					
Assessments	204,772	-	-	204,772	186,866
Dormant Funds HSBC Area 4 LSW Dist.	-	-	-	-	241
Interest & Investment Income	360	3,430	-	3,790	2,311
Circuit Levies	-	245,997	-	245,997	275,353
Grant/Donations	-	79,921	740	80,661	177,998
CPF Distribution received	-	9,936	-	9,936	-
Total incoming resources	205,132	339,284	740	545,156	642,769
Resources expended on managing and administering the Charity					
District Administration 5	78,724	-	-	78,724	75,119
Contributions to Circuits for Assistant Chairs	42,570	-	-	42,570	41,580
District Safeguarding expenses 6	35,442	8,860	-	44,302	43,106
Resourcing Mission Officer 7	-	17,360	-	17,360	20,469
Refugee & Inter-faith exp.	-	328	-	328	2,589
Synod Meeting expenses 8	1,230	-	-	1,230	1,780
Manse Expenditure 9	7,513	-	-	7,513	5,516
Provision for Manse repairs 10	3,000	-	-	3,000	3,000
District Committee Expenses	6,966	-	-	6,966	5,833
Training Grants & Expenses 11	-	16,349	-	16,349	4,061
Methodist Conference	894	-	-	894	481
Ecumenical payments 12	534	-	-	534	534
Computer exp.	-	-	-	-	108
Other expenditure 13	5,552	-	-	5,552	27,976
	182,425	42,897	-	225,322	232,152
Grants and payments made in furtherance of the Charity's Objects					
Grants & donations	-	169,255	700	169,955	393,325
Increase (Reduction) in Provision for future years payments	-	(55,805)	-	(55,805)	(47,554)
Miscellaneous	-	1,471	-	1,471	1,002
Total Resources Expended	182,425	157,818	700	340,943	578,925
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources before Transfers					
	22,707	181,466	40	204,213	63,844
Transfer between Funds	-	-	-	-	-
Unresolved gains & losses on investments	-	-	-	-	-
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources after Transfers	22,707	181,466	40	204,213	63,844
Funds brought forward	567,010	(14,949)	1,277	553,338	489,494
Total Funds carried forward	589,717	166,517	1,317	757,551	553,338

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31st August 2021 (prior year)

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Total Funds
		Expenses Account	Advance Fund	Benevolent Fund	City Centre Funds	2021
		£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources						
Assessments		186,866	-	-	-	186,866
Dormant Funds HSBC Area 4 LSW Dist.		241	-	-	-	241
Interest & Investment Income		110	1,891	-	310	2,311
Circuit Levies		-	275,353	-	-	275,353
Grant/Donations		-	177,668	330	-	177,998
CPF Distribution received		-	0	-	-	-
Total incoming resources		187,217	454,912	330	310	642,769
Resources expended on managing and administering the Charity						
District Administration	5	75,119	-	-	-	75,119
Contributions to Circuits for Assistant Chairs		41,580	-	-	-	41,580
District Safeguarding expenses	6	27,829	15,277	-	-	43,106
Resourcing Mission Officer	7	-	20,469	-	-	20,469
Refugee & Inter-faith exp.		-	2,589	-	-	2,589
Synod Meeting expenses	8	1,780	-	-	-	1,780
Manse Expenditure	9	5,516	-	-	-	5,516
Provision for Manse repairs	10	3,000	-	-	-	3,000
District Committee Expenses		5,833	-	-	-	5,833
Training Grants & Expenses	11	-	4,061	-	-	4,061
Methodist Conference		481	-	-	-	481
Ecumenical payments	12	534	-	-	-	534
Computer exp.		108	-	-	-	108
Other expenditure	13	27,976	-	-	-	27,976
		189,756	42,396	-	-	232,152
Grants and payments made in furtherance of the Charity's Objects						
Grants & donations		-	286,205	-	107,120	393,325
Increase (Reduction) in Provision for future years payments		-	(47,554)	-	-	(47,554)
Miscellaneous		-	788	-	214	1,002
Total Resources Expended		189,756	281,835	-	107,334	578,925
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources before Transfers						
Transfer between Funds		(2,539)	173,077	330	(107,024)	63,844
Unresolved gains & losses on investments		-	-	-	-	-
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources after Transfers		(2,539)	173,077	330	(107,024)	63,844
Funds brought forward		569,549	(188,026)	947	107,024	489,494
Total Funds carried forward		567,010	(14,949)	1,277	-	553,338

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2022

		Unrestricted	Restricted		Totals	
	Notes		Advance Fund	Benevolent Fund	2022 £	2021 £
Tangible Fixed Assets						
District Manse	2	501,663	-	-	501,663	501,663
Current Assets						
Debtors & Prepayments	3	-	-	-	-	-
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		-	632,886	-	632,886	507,225
Cash at Bank and Central Finance Board		98,674	-	1,317	99,991	74,244
Total current Assets		98,674	632,886	1,317	732,877	581,469
Creditors and Accruals						
District Advance Fund – provision for amounts Falling due in future years	4	-	(466,369)	-	(466,369)	(522,174)
Creditor		-	-	-	-	-
Provision for Manse repairs	10	(10,620)	-	-	(10,620)	(7,620)
Total current assets less current liabilities		88,054	166,517	1,317	255,888	51,675
Total Net Assets		589,717	166,517	1,317	757,551	553,338
Funds of the District						
General Fund (Unrestricted)		589,717	-	-	589,717	567,010
District Advance Fund (Restricted)		-	166,517	-	166,517	(14,949)
Other Funds (Restricted)		-	-	1,317	1,317	1,277
Total Funds	21	589,717	166,517	1,317	757,551	553,338

The notes on pages 15 to 19 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 8th December, 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

David Hinchliffe
District Chair and Trustee

Mrs. Pauline J Newton
District Treasurer and Trustee

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2021 (prior year)

		Unrestricted	Restricted		
	Notes		Advance Fund	Other Funds	Totals 2021
					£
Tangible Fixed Assets					
District Manse	2	501,663	-	-	501,663
Current Assets					
Debtors & Prepayments	3	-	-	-	-
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		-	507,225	-	507,225
Cash at Bank and Central Finance Board		<u>72,967</u>	-	<u>1,277</u>	<u>74,244</u>
Total current Assets		<u>72,967</u>	<u>507,225</u>	<u>1,277</u>	<u>581,469</u>
Creditors and Accruals					
District Advance Fund – provision for amounts Falling due in future years	4	-	(522,174)	-	(522,174)
Creditor		-	-	-	-
Provision for Manse repairs	10	<u>(7,620)</u>	-	-	<u>(7,620)</u>
Total current assets less current liabilities		<u>65,347</u>	<u>(14,949)</u>	<u>1,277</u>	<u>51,675</u>
Total Net Assets		<u>567,010</u>	<u>(14,949)</u>	<u>1,277</u>	<u>553,338</u>
Funds of the District					
General Fund (Unrestricted)		567,010	-	-	567,010
District Advance Fund (Restricted)		-	(14,949)	-	(14,949)
Other Funds (Restricted)		-	-	<u>1,277</u>	<u>1,277</u>
Total Funds	21	<u>567,010</u>	<u>(14,949)</u>	<u>1,277</u>	<u>553,338</u>

Cashflow Statement as at 31st August 2022

Statement of Cashflows

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Net cash generated from/(used by) operating activities	23	147,618	18,683
Cashflows from investing activities:			
Interest from investments		<u>3,790</u>	<u>2,311</u>
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents		151,408	20,994
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>581,469</u>	<u>560,475</u>
Cash & cash equivalents at end of year		<u>732,877</u>	<u>581,469</u>
Cash at bank and in hand		99,991	74,244
Short term deposits		<u>632,886</u>	<u>507,225</u>
		<u>732,877</u>	<u>581,469</u>



Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2022

1. Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16th July 2014 and Update Bulletin 1 issued on 2nd February 2016.

Going Concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31st August 2022 the Trustees believe that the District is a going concern.

Funds

The funds held constitute General Funds held for any purpose of the District and are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and Restricted Funds which are held for a narrower purpose.

Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Depreciation has not been provided on freehold land and buildings because the trustees consider the residual value of the manse is not less than cost and the depreciation would be immaterial.

Incoming Resources

These are included in the SOFA when the District becomes entitled to the resources; the Trustees are virtually certain that they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Liability Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the District to make the payment. With regard to the District Advance Fund, a note of the Contingent Liability is set out in Note 4 to these Accounts.

Provisions

An annual provision is made for major expenditure on manse repairs, with such expenditure being deducted from the accumulated provision when it is incurred.

Debtors

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the District or prepaid.

Gains/(losses) on investments

The investments are in monetary assets and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value are those provided by TMCP. Realised and unrealised capital gains and losses on investments are dealt with in the SOFA in the year in which they arise, based on the brought forward valuations or cost of subsequent additions.

Estimates and judgements

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.



Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
2. Fixed Assets		
Freehold land and building		
Deemed Cost		
District manse – as at 31 st August 2022	501,663	501,663
Land £167,221 Building £334,442		
3. Debtors and Prepayments		
None	-	-
4. Creditors and Accruals		
District Advance Fund		
Provision for Grants committed or payable in future years, balance as at 31 st August	522,174	569,728
Increase (reduction) in provision for future payments	(55,805)	(47,554)
	Payable 2022-23 £269,751	Payable 2023 onwards £196,618
Total Provision as at 31 st August	<u>466,369</u>	<u>522,174</u>
5. District Administration		
Chair's travel and miscellaneous expenses	2,993	640
Secretarial and Administration	40,768	38,758
- Salary - £35,024		
- Social security - £3,731		
- Pension - £2,013		
District Office rent	28,220	27,331
District Office expenses, printing, stationery, post, Phone, etc	<u>6,743</u>	<u>8,390</u>
	<u>78,724</u>	<u>75,119</u>
6. District Safeguarding Expenses		
District Officer	42,864	42,236
- Salary - £36,691		
- Social security - £3,972		
- Pension - £2,201		
Training costs, including travel, refreshments etc	<u>1,438</u>	<u>870</u>
	44,302	43,106
Reimbursed from District Advance Fund	<u>(8,860)</u>	<u>(15,277)</u>
Cost to District Expenses	<u>35,442</u>	<u>27,829</u>



**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2022**

	2022	2021
	£	£
7. Resourcing Mission Expenses		
District Officers, P/T Job-Share	16,350	19,654
- Salary - £15,246		
- Social security - £189		
- Pension - £915		
Expenses including travel, phone calls etc	<u>1,010</u>	<u>815</u>
	17,360	20,469
Reimbursed from District Advance Fund	<u>(17,360)</u>	<u>(20,469)</u>
	-----	-----
8. Synod Expenses		
District Directory & miscellaneous printing and stationery	760	1,695
Miscellaneous costs	-	85
Miscellaneous travel and Ministerial Synod expenses	<u>470</u>	-----
	<u>1,230</u>	<u>1,780</u>
9. District Manse Expenses		
Council tax	3,105	3,009
Water rates	635	105
Insurance	1,373	1,368
Telephone	682	583
Miscellaneous expenses, boiler, security, etc	<u>1,718</u>	<u>451</u>
	<u>7,513</u>	<u>5,516</u>
10. Provision for Manse Repairs		
Balance as at 31 st August 2021	7,620	6,000
Amount transferred in the year	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>
Balance as at 31 st August 2022	10,620	9,000
Major expenditure during the year	-	<u>(1,380)</u>
	<u>10,620</u>	<u>7,620</u>
11. Training expenditure		
Total paid out for Training Grants	182	497
Residential Conferences, Training courses etc	<u>16,167</u>	<u>3,564</u>
	16,349	4,061
Less:		
Contribution from attendees	<u>1,496</u>	-----
	14,853	4,061
Reimbursed from District Advance Fund	<u>(14,853)</u>	<u>(4,061)</u>
Cost to District Expenses	-----	-----
12. Ecumenical payments		
Churches Together in Surrey	<u>534</u>	<u>534</u>



**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2022**

	2022	2021
	£	£
13. Other expenditure		
Youth Conference – 3Generate	1,944	-
Copyright	237	230
Website	299	-
Employment advice	1,345	2,726
Independent Exam. fee	1,200	1,140
Apprenticeship Levy	434	439
Administration and bank charges	93	82
Assessment refunds	-	<u>23,359</u>
	<u>5,552</u>	<u>27,976</u>

14. Reimbursements

No employee earned £60,000 per annum or more.

The average number of employees, analysed by function, was:

	2022	2021
F/T Administration of the charity	1	1
F/T District Safeguarding Officer	1	1
Half-time District Resourcing Mission Officer	1	1

The Chair of S E District chairs meetings of the District Council and provides key management of the charity. The stipend, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions of the Chair of District are paid by the Methodist Connexion. Members of the District Council are the Trustees of the Charity and work with the Chair of District to manage the Charity.

15. Payments to Trustees

Expenses were reimbursed to Trustees for their travelling and out of pocket expenses.

No. of Trustees		Amount Reimbursed	
2022	2021	2022	2021
14	5	£7,657	£1,469

16. Ultimate controlling party

The ultimate controlling party of the District is considered to be the Annual Conference of the Methodist Church.

17. Related parties

The related parties of the District are seventeen Circuits, their Chapels and Manses, which are all based in the south-eastern segment of England including the whole of Kent and most of Surrey and Sussex and includes small areas of Berkshire and Hampshire and the Circuits in Malta and Gibraltar. They are contactable via the principal office of the District. Funds are transferred from Circuits to the District on a quarterly basis.

During the year, no transactions took place with related parties (as defined by Financial Reporting Standard No. 33).

18. Capital commitments

	2022	2021
At 31 st August 2022 the District had the following Capital Commitments:	Nil	Nil



**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2022**

19. Synod collection

Spring Synod was held in person this year and £97.75 was collected for the Methodist Ministers' Children's Relief Association.

20. Expenses related to Malta & Gibraltar

Each year all District expenses incurred relating to Malta & Gibraltar are paid for by Methodist Church Fund so are not included in our SOFA. The amount for year 2022 is £5,020 (2021 nil).

21. Funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL
Brought forward	567,010	(13,672)	553,338
Income	205,132	340,024	545,156
Expenditure	(182,425)	(158,518)	(340,943)
Other gains/losses	-	-	-
Carried forward	589,717	167,834	757,551

District Advance Fund (included in Restricted Funds)

Many of the Grants agreed relate to future years and under the accounting requirements funds have been set aside for this purpose.

22. Funds (prior year)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL
Brought forward	569,549	(80,055)	489,494
Income	187,217	455,552	642,769
Expenditure	(189,756)	(389,169)	(578,925)
Other gains/losses	-	-	-
Carried forward	567,010	(13,672)	553,338

23. Reconciliation of net cash provided by/(used by) operating activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Net expenditure for the reporting period	204,213	63,844
Interest received	(3,790)	(2,311)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	-	3,084
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(52,805)	(45,934)
	<u>147,618</u>	<u>18,683</u>

THE METHODIST CHURCH: SOUTH-EAST DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1130274

Accounts



Registered Charity number 1130274

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

**For the year ended
31st August 2021**



District Trustees

Rev David Hinchliffe (Chair)
Rev Deborah Cornish (Assistant Chair)
Rev Helen Hollands (Assistant Chair)
Rev Samantha Funnell (Assistant Chair) (appointed 1 September 2020)
Mrs Pauline Newton (District Treasurer)
Mrs Shelagh Morgan (Synod Secretary)
Rev Daniel Balsdon (appointed 19 September 2020)
Rev Christopher Blake (resigned 31 August 2021)
Mr Jack Delbridge
Rev Anne Ellis
Mrs Janet Glass (resigned 16 September 2020)
Rev Carmel Ieraci (resigned 31 August, 2021)
Ms Jenny Jackson (appointed 18 September, 2021)
Rev Nicholas Oborski (appointed 7 September, 2021)
Rev Sydney Samuel Lake (appointed 19 September 2020)
Rev Bonni-Belle Pickard (appointed 18 September, 2021)
Rev Andrew Reed
Deacon Bryanell Rop (appointed 7 September, 2021)
Mr Alan Wood
Mr Michael Barton Woodhouse

Principal Office

District Office, Unit 4b Basepoint Business Centre
Metcalfe Way, Crawley, West Sussex RH11 7XX

Independent Examiner

Azets Audit Services
2nd Floor, Regis House, 45 King William Street, London, EC4R 9AN

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc, PO Box 1000, BX1 1LT

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street, London EC2A 4PE

HSBC Bank plc, 333 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, SW1V 1EJ
(Benevolent Fund only)

**Investment Managers
and Custodian Trustees**

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2021

The Trustees submit their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2021. These are presented annually to the District Synod. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015) Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued on 16th July 2014 and Update Bulletin 1 issued 2nd February 2016, in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the Charity.

Objectives and Activities

The District is constituted to advance the mission of the Church in the South-East District by providing opportunities for circuits to work together and support each other, by offering them resources and finance, personnel and expertise which may not be available locally. The District also serves the local churches and circuits in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Church in programmes of training.

Objectives

The District came into being as a new Methodist District on the 1st September 2006. The main objectives set out were:

- To support and encourage the circuits in mission and worship as members of a world-wide church and global community;
- To develop pastoral care of lay and ordained staff living and working in the circuits and of the lay officers of the District;
- To work together to share ministry, leadership and responsibility and encourage these ways of working in the circuits.

Activities and Achievements

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

In April 2016, the Synod agreed the District Development plan for 2016-20 in which we stated our purpose: 'The Methodist Church believes that the Church is called to serve the purpose of the reign of God through its worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism. Within this purpose the South-East Methodist District will concentrate on what it can uniquely and best do to promote excellence and creativity in worship, mission, ministry, oversight and governance in local churches, circuits and their communities.'

We affirmed that we intend to achieve this by encouraging and resourcing local churches and circuits and "connecting the Connexion". This work is on-going. In June 2020, following on from the District Development Plan 2016-20, the District Council initiated a District Mission Plan review in order to

- ensure the District's mission plan is appropriate and effective;
- to reflect upon the impact of Covid-19 upon the mission of the District, Circuits and Churches in the South-East District, and to
- reflect on the report *God For All* which was accepted by the Methodist Conference of 2020 and to begin to explore whether the District's grant-making criteria might need to be re-written in the light of the Connexional mission priorities expressed in *God For All*.

This work has been on-going in spite of the pandemic. The District Council, and subsequently the District Synod have been working on a draft Mission Plan entitled "Encourage-Enable-Inspire." This work is on-going, and we seek to have the updated Mission Plan adopted during the next year.



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2021

Activities and Achievements (continued)

The churches, circuits and the District have continued to be significantly impacted by the global pandemic caused by the coronavirus, Covid-19. At Church and Government direction, churches were closed during the winter lock-downs of 2020/21. Most churches have now re-opened, though many with reduced congregational attendance as many – reflecting the demographic – remain anxious about returning to church. The churches which have re-opened have undertaken risk-assessments to seek to ensure churches are as safe as possible. Nevertheless, the last year has impacted in multiple ways:

* **worship life** – where worship resources and services have been facilitated online and in paper-form to maintain a worshipping life during periods of lockdown. As churches have re-opened they have reflected on the value of online presence and many churches have continued to live-stream or pre-record for streaming acts of worship. The District is itself reviewing its own digital resources and policy;

* in **pastoral care** - where and how pastoral support is offered has had to change during the lockdown; the continued prevalence of Covid-19 means that offering effective pastoral care (especially face to face) remains a challenge;

* **financially** - where income has dramatically dropped for many churches (and rental income in particular), as well as expenditure. The District, churches and circuits have been asked to monitor their finances in the light of the need for robust reserves policies and the need for wealthier churches and circuits to support their poorer neighbours. The District was able to rebate a small portion of the assessment of circuits at the end of this Methodist financial year in line with its own reserves policy, as the costs incurred by the District (particularly for travel and residential meetings) had reduced substantially as meetings have largely remained online through the year;

* **community service** – most churches have now re-opened, although the use of premises and consequent rental income remains significantly impacted. Churches have nevertheless been active in supporting vulnerable members and neighbours, as well as supporting increasingly needed foodbanks;

* **training** – this has been offered online, with the Southern and Islands Learning Network offering many imaginative online training opportunities. The numbers attending online training has been significantly higher than the numbers pre-pandemic attending training in person. Safeguarding ‘Training the Trainers’ has been offered online and the Safeguarding “Foundation” and “Advanced” modules are now available for online delivery.

The District’s superintendents have continued to meet weekly with the Chair and Assistant Chairs via Zoom in order to share best practice and offer mutual support and encouragement to each other.

The District “Under Fives Group” (those in early years in ministry) has continued to meet regularly via Zoom for mutual support and encouragement, including a day of “trauma training”.

Almost all District meetings – including the District Synod – have continued to meet online. As already noted, this has continued to result in a considerable financial saving. It has also made a contribution to the reduction in the District’s **carbon footprint** as a result of the reduction in travelling. The District Council has reviewed what meetings going forward *need* to be held ‘face to face’ and those which can be held online. It is now implementing the outcomes of its review.

The District Council has set aside funds from the District Advance Fund to create three new posts in partnership with circuits, where each post will be 2/3 time working in an area of new housing as a missional practitioner developing a new initiative and 1/3 time as a consultant and advocate for mission in new housing areas around the District. The funding will be initially for three years, potentially extended to five years. The South Kent Circuit’s New Housing Missioner commenced his



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2021

Activities and Achievements (continued)

post on 1st September 2020. This is already bearing fruit in the relationships he is building up with new arrivals on the Chilmington Green estate in Ashford, Kent. The District is keen to partner in such schemes with two other circuits. It recognises that the ability of other circuits to explore such potential has been impacted by Covid-19.

The policy for Releasing Property for God's Mission is being implemented within the work of the Resourcing Mission Officers across the district, to whom we express our thanks. The District is especially grateful to Stephanie Roux, who steps down from her role as a Resourcing Mission Officer at the end of August 2021. The District will seek to appoint a District Property Officer as soon as it can and preparatory work is underway. The District has also supported numerous pieces of mission work in the life of the District through its grant-making processes. The halting of Connexional grant-making placed considerable pressure upon District grant-making resources and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future – meaning effective targeting of resources is even more essential.

The Southern and Islands Learning Network team have continued to offer a breadth of online resources to churches, circuits and across the District. The Fresh Ways Hub supports and encourages those involved in pioneering new expressions of church, mission and ministry. Consideration of the role and place of Local Lay Pastors is being explored. In partnership with the Regional Learning Network, the District Council has ensured that opportunities for learning and professional development are offered to all lay employees and that training for line managers is available.

As the churches unlock, the District is committed to the resourcing and development of effective work among children and young people across the District. In particular it is offering grants to enable young people to attend 3Generate, the national Methodist Church's youth assembly. The District Reconciliation Panel remains able to offer advice and early intervention in situations where relationships are breaking down. The group will also meet the requirements set out for it in the complaints and discipline procedures of the Methodist Church. The strengthening of the Complaints Support Group (whose members stand alongside those who have made complaints and those who have been complained against) remains a key priority going forward.

The District Safeguarding Officer continues to be a valued resource for churches, circuits and the District, as she responds to a variety of situations and cases, as well as overseeing Safeguarding training for the District. The District Safeguarding Group's aims and objectives and membership has been reviewed and the formation of a new District Safeguarding Group is in process. An independent Chair has been appointed to lead this group. A key priority will be to learn from the IICSA report and any forthcoming recommendations.

The implementation of GDPR is an on-going piece of work in line with guidance from TMCP. The time has come to review the role of the District Data Champion, now that the GDPR regulations have been embedded, to ensure that all remain GDPR-compliant.

The ongoing activity of the District includes work such as: vocational work with candidates for ordained ministry; oversight of probationers; re-invitation and stationing; complaints and discipline; property consents and grant making; the valuable work of our Refugee and Interfaith Adviser who has completed her appointment. Going forward we will continue to reflect on Covid-19's ongoing impact upon finance, health and well-being, serving the community, digital resources and the Mission life of the District. We will also be alert to the impact of the decisions of the Methodist Conference of June/July 2021 in relation to oversight and trusteeship, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, and the impact of the decisions relating to marriage and relationships – amongst many other decisions. Through it all, we will seek to serve the present age, as a Christian presence across the South East of England and in Malta and Gibraltar.



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2021

Activities and Achievements (continued)

The impact of Covid-19 has continued to radically challenge the Church, and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. It has been testing financially, spiritually and of course through affecting the physical and mental health of so many. The District Chair wishes to honour and celebrate the skill, imagination, grace and commitment of so many faithful servants of Christ across the District who have enabled the Church to flourish even amidst a pandemic. He is especially grateful to the District's Assistant Chairs, and to his PA, and to the remarkable number of District Officers who, in spite of the times, continue to serve the Church faithfully, imaginatively and with good cheer.

Fundraising

The District does not actively fundraise from the general public.

Financial Review

Investment Policy

The surplus funds of the District's General Funds are held in a deposit account of the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, which is a separate body reporting directly to Conference. The surplus funds of the District Advance Fund and City Centre Funds are held in various accounts with The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees' objective is to maintain net current assets in Unrestricted Reserves equivalent to approximately four months' Resources expended. The Trustees maintain the Restricted Reserves at a sufficient level to enable each Fund to carry out its objectives.

District Expenses Account

The Net Resources showed an excess of expenditure over income of £2,539 (2020 £25,721 excess income over expenditure) after setting aside a sum of £3,000 towards future repairs to the District Manse and covering the cost of an 'Islands Meeting' (£3,084) instead of reclaiming the cost from other Districts.

District Advance Fund

After receiving Circuit levies of £275,353 and Interest and Investment income of £1,891, the Trustees were able to make Grants totalling £286,205 and also transfers totalling £42,396 to the Expenses Account as follows: £4,061 relating to Training, £15,277 to District Safeguarding expenses, £2,589 to Refugee & Inter-faith expenditure and £20,469 to our Resourcing Mission Officers. We also received the third payment of 'Our Calling' grant from the Connexional Priority Fund of £25,000 (£75,000 over 3 years) towards our New Housing Missioner project. Many of the Grants agreed relate to future years and under the accounting requirements, £522,174 has been set aside for this purpose. A shortfall of £14,949 (2020 £188,026 shortfall) is carried forward into the new Connexional Year but the Circuit levies due at the beginning of September 2021 will cover the deficit. The funding from the London Mission Fund (LMF) is now being processed in a different way. In previous years funds were transferred to churches & circuits direct from LMF but with effect from year 20/21 the funds are now being channelled through our District Advance Fund and £146,835 has been received and passed on to Circuits.



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2021

Financial Review (continued)

Chair's Benevolent Fund

This is a small fund which relies on donations from Churches, Circuits and individuals, which allows the District Chair to make payments to those the Chair feels are deserving of a Grant. Donations totalling £330 were received during the year and no payments out were made. The Fund only spends monies which it has available to it and at 31st August 2021 the balance carried forward was £1,277 (2020 £947).

City Centre Funds

During year ended August 2021 grants were paid out for The Beacon Dover and Eastbourne. The funds were valued at £107,024 at 31st August 2020, interest of £310 was added during the year and admin. charges of £214 deducted. The remaining balances of £23,361 and £83,759 have been transferred to the Beacon Dover and Eastbourne respectively and the Trust Funds closed.

Plans for Future Periods

Due to the restrictions surrounding COVID 19 there has been a reduction in the amount of travel expenses incurred by District officers. We reviewed expenditure in July 2021 and were able to refund a total of £23,359 of Assessment across our 17 Circuits. A number of meetings will continue to be held on line, keeping travel costs as low as possible so we will make a refund of Assessment in the future if our Reserves exceed the 4 months resources expended figure. As mentioned under District Advance Fund, there has been a change in the way the London Mission Fund makes grant payments and we anticipate a grant of £70,145 in the year 21/22. The District Advance Fund will continue to receive Circuit Levies and a Grant from the Connexional Priority Fund when the District is eligible. This will enable the Grants Committee to offer Grants in year 2021/2022 depending on the quantity of the requests received. The Benevolent Fund will continue to consider requests to spend the resources available.

Structure, Governance and Trustees' Responsibilities

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Charity 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 Charity and of its financial activities for that period, together with its assets and liabilities at the end of the period, and adequately distinguish any material special trust or other restricted fund of the Charity. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable Accounting Standards, 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 operation.

Legal and administrative information

The governing body of the District is the Methodist Church and the governing body of the Methodist



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2021

Structure, Governance and Trustees' Responsibilities (continued)

Church is the Conference. The Methodist Church Act 1976 gives the authority under which the Methodist Church acts. The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church governs the activities of the District. The District is a Registered Charity and was registered with the Charity Commission on 10th June 2009.

Trustees

The Trustees who have served during the year and those appointed since are set out on page 1. Trustees are appointed by the Autumn Synod.

The Trustees are responsible for the detailed examination of the financial statements and for recommending their adoption to Synod.

The District is one of thirty Districts of the Methodist Church in the United Kingdom. The South-East District brings together seventeen Circuits, their Chapels and Manses based in the south eastern segment of England including the whole of Kent, Surrey and Sussex, and small areas of Berkshire and Hampshire and includes the Circuits in Malta & Gibraltar. They are contactable via the principal office of the District.

Internal Financial Controls

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that there is in place an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise, to provide reasonable confidence and assurance that:

- the District's administration is operating effectively and efficiently;
- the assets of the District are properly safeguarded against unauthorised loss or damage;
- proper records are maintained and information produced for management control, fiscal and statutory reasons; and
- the District complies with the relevant laws and guidelines.

Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the major strategic business and operational risks which the charity faces, and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to monitor these risks.

District Independent Examiner

Azets Audit Services was appointed Independent Examiner of District Funds by the District Council.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 15th December, 2021.

Rev David Hinchliffe
District Chair and Trustee

Mrs. Pauline J Newton
District Treasurer and Trustee



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church South-East District

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church South-East District

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2021, which are set out on pages 9 – 18.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

John Howard FCA
Azets Audit Services
2nd Floor
Regis House
45 King William Street
London
EC4R 9AN

Date: 17th December, 2021

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31st August 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Total Funds	
		Expenses Account	Advance Fund	Benevolent Fund	City Centre Funds	2021	2020
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources							
Assessments		186,866	-	-	-	186,866	169,939
Dormant Funds HSBC Area 4 LSW Dist.		241	-	-	-	241	-
Interest & Investment Income		110	1,891	-	310	2,311	5,118
Circuit Levies		-	275,353	-	-	275,353	190,528
Grant/Donations		-	177,668	330	-	177,998	25,598
CPF Distribution received		-	0	-	-	-	5,760
Total incoming resources		187,217	454,912	330	310	642,769	396,943
Resources expended on managing and administering the Charity							
District Administration	5	75,119	-	-	-	75,119	74,806
Contributions to Circuits for Assistant Chairs		41,580	-	-	-	41,580	26,538
District Safeguarding expenses	6	27,829	15,277	-	-	43,106	43,474
Resourcing Mission Officer	7	-	20,469	-	-	20,469	20,414
Refugee & Inter-faith exp.		-	2,589	-	-	2,589	2,441
Synod Meeting expenses	8	1,780	-	-	-	1,780	2,085
Manse Expenditure	9	5,516	-	-	-	5,516	5,945
Provision for Manse repairs	10	3,000	-	-	-	3,000	3,000
District Committee Expenses		5,833	-	-	-	5,833	8,868
Training Grants & Expenses	11	-	4,061	-	-	4,061	17,787
Methodist Conference		481	-	-	-	481	30
Ecumenical payments	12	534	-	-	-	534	879
Computer exp.		108	-	-	-	108	-
Other expenditure	13	27,976	-	-	-	27,976	5,057
		189,756	42,396	-	-	232,152	211,324
Grants and payments made in furtherance of the Charity's Objects							
Grants & donations		-	286,205	-	107,120	393,325	114,200
Increase (Reduction) in Provision for future years payments		-	(47,554)	-	-	(47,554)	232,428
Miscellaneous		-	788	-	214	1,002	914
Total Resources Expended		189,756	281,835	-	107,334	578,925	558,866
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources before Transfers							
		(2,539)	173,077	330	(107,024)	63,844	(161,923)
Transfer between Funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
Unresolved gains & losses on investments		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources after Transfers		(2,539)	173,077	330	(107,024)	63,844	(161,923)
Funds brought forward		569,549	(188,026)	947	107,024	489,494	651,417
Total Funds carried forward		567,010	(14,949)	1,277	-	553,338	489,494

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31st August 2020 (prior year)

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Total Funds
		Expenses Account	Advance Fund	Benevolent Fund	City Centre Funds	2020
		£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources						
Assessments		169,939	-	-	-	169,939
Interest & Investment Income		380	3,823	-	915	5,118
Circuit Levies		-	190,528	-	-	190,528
Grant/Donations		-	25,000	598	-	25,598
CPF Distribution received		-	5,760	-	-	5,760
Total incoming resources		170,319	225,111	598	915	396,943
Resources expended on managing and administering the Charity						
District Administration	5	74,806	-	-	-	74,806
Contributions to Circuits for Assistant Chairs		26,538	-	-	-	26,538
District Safeguarding expenses	6	17,390	26,084	-	-	43,474
Resourcing Mission Officer	7	-	20,414	-	-	20,414
Refugee & Inter-faith exp.		-	2,441	-	-	2,441
Synod Meeting expenses	8	2,085	-	-	-	2,085
Manse Expenditure	9	5,945	-	-	-	5,945
Provision for Manse repairs	10	3,000	-	-	-	3,000
District Committee Expenses		8,868	-	-	-	8,868
Training Grants & Expenses	11	-	17,787	-	-	17,787
Methodist Conference		30	-	-	-	30
Ecumenical payments	12	879	-	-	-	879
Other expenditure	13	5,057	-	-	-	5,057
		144,598	66,726	-	-	211,324
Grants and payments made in furtherance of the Charity's Objects						
Grants & donations		-	114,000	200	-	114,200
Increase (Reduction) in Provision for future years payments		-	232,428	-	-	232,428
Miscellaneous		-	701	-	213	914
Total Resources Expended		144,598	413,855	200	213	558,866
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources before Transfers						
		25,721	(188,744)	398	702	(161,923)
Transfer between Funds		-	-	-	-	-
Unresolved gains & losses on investments		-	-	-	-	-
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources after Transfers		25,721	(188,744)	398	702	(161,923)
Funds brought forward		543,828	718	549	106,322	651,417
Total Funds carried forward		569,549	(188,026)	947	107,024	489,494

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2021

		Unrestricted	Restricted		Totals	
	Notes		Advance Fund	Other Funds	2021 £	2020 £
Tangible Fixed Assets						
District Manse	2	501,663	-	-	501,663	501,663
Current Assets						
Debtors & Prepayments	3	-	-	-	-	3,084
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		-	507,225	-	507,225	488,726
Cash at Bank and Central Finance Board		<u>72,967</u>	-	<u>1,277</u>	<u>74,244</u>	<u>71,749</u>
Total current Assets		72,967	507,225	1,277	581,469	563,559
Creditors and Accruals						
District Advance Fund – provision for amounts Falling due in future years	4	-	(522,174)	-	(522,174)	(569,728)
Creditor		-	-	-	-	-
Provision for Manse repairs	10	<u>(7,620)</u>	-	-	<u>(7,620)</u>	<u>(6,000)</u>
Total current assets less current liabilities		65,347	(14,949)	1,277	51,675	(12,169)
Total Net Assets		<u>567,010</u>	<u>(14,949)</u>	<u>1,277</u>	<u>553,338</u>	<u>489,494</u>
Funds of the District						
General Fund (Unrestricted)		567,010	-	-	567,010	569,549
District Advance Fund (Restricted)		-	(14,949)	-	(14,949)	(188,026)
Other Funds (Restricted)		-	-	<u>1,277</u>	<u>1,277</u>	<u>107,971</u>
Total Funds	21	<u>567,010</u>	<u>(14,949)</u>	<u>1,277</u>	<u>553,338</u>	<u>489,494</u>

The notes on pages 14 to 18 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 15th December, 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

David Hinchliffe
District Chair and Trustee

Mrs. Pauline J Newton
District Treasurer and Trustee

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2020 (prior year)

		Unrestricted	Restricted		Totals
	Notes		Advance Fund	Other Funds	2020 £
Tangible Fixed Assets					
District Manse	2	501,663	-	-	501,663
 Current Assets					
Debtors & Prepayments	3	3,084	-	-	3,084
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		-	381,702	107,024	488,726
Cash at Bank and Central Finance Board		<u>70,802</u>	-	947	<u>71,749</u>
Total current Assets		73,886	381,702	107,971	563,559
 Creditors and Accruals					
District Advance Fund – provision for amounts					
Falling due in future years	4	-	(569,728)	-	(569,728)
Creditor	4	-	-	-	-
Provision for Manse repairs	10	<u>(6,000)</u>	-	-	<u>(6,000)</u>
Total current assets less current liabilities		67,886	(188,026)	107,971	(12,169)
 Total Net Assets		 <u>569,549</u>	<u>(188,026)</u>	<u>107,971</u>	<u>489,494</u>
 Funds of the District					
General Fund (Unrestricted)		569,549	-	-	569,549
District Advance Fund (Restricted)		-	(188,026)	-	(188,026)
Other Funds (Restricted)		-	-	107,971	<u>107,971</u>
Total Funds	21	<u>569,549</u>	<u>(188,026)</u>	<u>107,971</u>	<u>489,494</u>

Cashflow Statement as at 31st August 2021

Statement of Cashflows

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Net cash generated from/(used by) operating activities	23	18,683	63,399
Cashflows from investing activities:			
Interest from investments		<u>2,311</u>	<u>5,118</u>
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents		20,994	68,517
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>560,475</u>	<u>491,958</u>
Cash & cash equivalents at end of year		<u>581,469</u>	<u>560,475</u>
Cash at bank and in hand		74,244	71,749
Short term deposits		<u>507,225</u>	<u>488,726</u>
		<u>581,469</u>	<u>560,475</u>



Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2021

1. Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16th July 2014 and Update Bulletin 1 issued on 2nd February 2016.

Going Concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31st August 2021 the Trustees believe that the District is a going concern.

Funds

The funds held constitute General Funds held for any purpose of the District and are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and Restricted Funds which are held for a narrower purpose.

Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Depreciation has not been provided on freehold land and buildings because the trustees consider the residual value of the manse is not less than cost and the depreciation would be immaterial.

Incoming Resources

These are included in the SOFA when the District becomes entitled to the resources; the Trustees are virtually certain that they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Liability Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the District to make the payment. With regard to the District Advance Fund, a note of the Contingent Liability is set out in Note 4 to these Accounts.

Provisions

An annual provision is made for major expenditure on manse repairs, with such expenditure being deducted from the accumulated provision when it is incurred.

Debtors

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the District or prepaid.

Gains/(losses) on investments

The investments are in monetary assets and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value are those provided by TMCP. Realised and unrealised capital gains and losses on investments are dealt with in the SOFA in the year in which they arise, based on the brought forward valuations or cost of subsequent additions.

Estimates and judgements

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.



Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
2. Fixed Assets		
Freehold land and building		
Deemed Cost		
District manse – as at 31 st August 2021	501,663	501,663
Land £167,221 Building £334,442		
3. Debtors and Prepayments		
Islands Meeting	-	3,084
4. Creditors and Accruals		
District Advance Fund		
Provision for Grants committed or payable in future years, balance as at 31 st August	569,728	337,300
Increase (reduction) in provision for future payments	(47,554)	232,428
	Payable	Payable
	2021-2022	2022 onwards
	£364,255	£157,919
Total Provision as at 31 st August	<u>522,174</u>	<u>569,728</u>
5. District Administration		
Incoming Chair relocation	-	101
Chair's travel and miscellaneous expenses	640	2,063
Secretarial and Administration	38,758	37,690
- Salary - £33,378		
- Social security - £3,390		
- Pension - £1,990		
District Office rent	27,331	26,409
District Office expenses, printing, stationery, post, Phone, etc	<u>8,390</u>	<u>8,543</u>
	<u>75,119</u>	<u>74,806</u>
6. District Safeguarding Expenses		
District Officer	42,236	41,109
- Salary - £36,270		
- Social security - £3,790		
- Pension - £2,176		
Training costs, including travel, refreshments etc	<u>870</u>	<u>2,365</u>
	43,106	43,474
Reimbursed from District Advance Fund	<u>(15,277)</u>	<u>(26,084)</u>
Cost to District Expenses	<u>27,829</u>	<u>17,390</u>



**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2021**

	2021	2020
	£	£
7. Resourcing Mission Expenses		
District Officers, P/T Job-Share	19,654	19,122
- Salary - £18,325		
- Social security - £229		
- Pension - £1,100		
Expenses including travel, phone calls etc	<u>815</u>	<u>1,292</u>
	20,469	20,414
Reimbursed from District Advance Fund	<u>(20,469)</u>	<u>(20,414)</u>
	—	—
8. Synod Expenses		
District Directory & miscellaneous printing and stationery	1,695	1,695
Miscellaneous costs	85	171
Miscellaneous travel and Ministerial Synod expenses	<u>—</u>	<u>219</u>
	<u>1780</u>	<u>2,085</u>
9. District Manse Expenses		
Council tax	3,009	2,904
Water rates	105	333
Insurance	1,368	1,267
Telephone	583	634
Miscellaneous expenses, boiler, security, etc	<u>451</u>	<u>807</u>
	5,516	5,945
10. Provision for Manse Repairs		
Balance as at 31 st August 2020	6,000	3,000
Amount transferred in the year	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>
Balance as at 31 st August 2021	9,000	6,000
Major expenditure during the year	<u>(1,380)</u>	<u>—</u>
	<u>7,620</u>	<u>6,000</u>
11. Training expenditure		
Total paid out for Training Grants	497	3,288
Residential Conferences, Training courses etc	<u>3,564</u>	<u>16,839</u>
	4,061	20,127
Less:		
Contribution from attendees	<u>—</u>	<u>(2,340)</u>
	4,061	17,787
Reimbursed from District Advance Fund	<u>(4,061)</u>	<u>(17,787)</u>
Cost to District Expenses	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
12. Ecumenical payments		
Churches Together in Surrey	<u>534</u>	<u>879</u>
	<u>534</u>	<u>879</u>



**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2021**

	2021	2020
13. Other expenditure	£	£
Youth Conference – 3Generate	-	(32)
Copyright	230	222
Website	-	-
Employment advice	2,726	3,289
Independent Exam. fee	1,140	1,080
Apprenticeship Levy	439	428
Administration and bank charges	82	70
Assessment refunds	<u>23,359</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>27,976</u>	<u>5,057</u>

14. Reimbursements

No employee earned £60,000 per annum or more.

The average number of employees, analysed by function, was:

	2021	2020
F/T Administration of the charity	1	1
F/T District Safeguarding Officer	1	1
Half-time District Resourcing Mission Officer	1	1

The Chair of S E District chairs meetings of the District Council and provides key management of the charity. The stipend, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions of the Chair of District are paid by the Methodist Connexion. Members of the District Council are the Trustees of the Charity and work with the Chair of District to manage the Charity.

15. Payments to Trustees

Expenses were reimbursed to Trustees for their travelling and out of pocket expenses.

No. of Trustees		Amount Reimbursed	
2021	2020	2021	2020
5	10	£1,469	£5,675

16. Ultimate controlling party

The ultimate controlling party of the District is considered to be the Annual Conference of the Methodist Church.

17. Related parties

The related parties of the District are seventeen Circuits, their Chapels and Manses, which are all based in the south-eastern segment of England including the whole of Kent and parts of Surrey and Sussex and includes small areas of Berkshire and Hampshire and includes the Circuits in Malta and Gibraltar. They are contactable via the principal office of the District. Funds are transferred from Circuits to the District on a quarterly basis.

During the year, no transactions took place with related parties (as defined by Financial Reporting Standard No. 33).

18. Capital commitments

	2021	2020
At 31 st August 2021 the District had the following Capital Commitments:	Nil	Nil



Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2021

19. Synod collection

Spring Synod was held on Zoom due to Coronavirus restrictions so no collection was taken for the Methodist Ministers' Children's Fund.

20. Expenses related to Malta & Gibraltar

Each year all District expenses incurred relating to Malta & Gibraltar are paid for by Methodist Church Fund so are not included in our SOFA. The amount for year 2021 is nil (2020 £4,594).

21. Funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL
Brought forward	569,549	(80,055)	489,494
Income	187,217	455,552	642,769
Expenditure	(189,755)	(389,169)	(578,924)
Other gains/losses	—	—	—
Carried forward	567,011	(13,672)	553,339

District Advance Fund (included in Restricted Funds)

Many of the Grants agreed relate to future years and under the accounting requirements funds have been set aside for this purpose. A shortfall is carried forward into the new Connexional Year but this is covered by the levies due from Circuits in September 2021.

22. Funds (prior year)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL
Brought forward	543,828	107,589	651,417
Income	170,319	226,624	396,943
Expenditure	(144,598)	(414,268)	(558,866)
Other gains/losses	—	—	—
Carried forward	569,549	(80,055)	489,494

23. Reconciliation of net cash provided by/(used by) operating activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Net expenditure for the reporting period	63,844	(161,923)
Interest received	(2,311)	(5,118)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	3,084	(2,383)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(45,934)	232,823
	<u>18,683</u>	<u>63,399</u>