



**THE METHODIST CHURCH
REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)
for the year ended 31 August 2024**

Leeds North and East

Circuit

Registered Charity - Registration number

1131455

Leeds

District No / Circuit No 16-02

Ministers

Revd George Bailey (Co-Superintendent)

Revd Edward Sakwe

Revd Tanya Short (Co-Superintendent)

Revd Becki Stennett

Revd Mark Stennett

Deacon Adelha da Silva Kaka

Revd Steven Jones (in other appointment)

Circuit Stewards

Mrs Barbara Belsham

Mr Adrian Marshall

Mrs Janice Green

Mrs Anne Kirkland (senior Circuit Steward)

Circuit Treasurer

Revd Steven Jones

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2019).

2 Funds

The funds held constitute:

- General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit, which are Unrestricted.
- The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders, and is categorised as unrestricted.
- Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose.
- There are no Endowment funds.

Details of each material fund are disclosed in the final note to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

3 Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost (except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year), on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the churches within the circuit but has no legal or operational control of those churches and their governing bodies except in extreme circumstances. For this reason, the financial statements of churches within the circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

Content

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.

Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available as at 31 August 2024, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern.

Incoming Resources

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Methodist Connexional Funds

The Methodist Church Connexion raises assessments against Circuits, and these are paid quarterly to their Districts. The Circuit receives contributions from the Churches in the Circuit. The District retains a portion of the assessment received from the Circuit to meet its own costs, and remits the balance to the Connexion.

The Circuit also acts as Agent for ad hoc collections for various funds controlled and administered by the Methodist Church.

Ministers' Manse Costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister appointed to the Circuit. Such accommodation (manses) is for the use of the minister and their immediate family. Other than in exceptional circumstances (which need prior approval from the Connexion), ministers are expected to occupy such manse provided.

The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, and water charges. Such costs are not required by HMRC to be disclosed as benefits-in-kind as these specific costs are considered to be non-taxable.

Public Benefit Entity

Leeds North and East Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

Resources Expended

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment.

VAT

Since the Circuit is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500.

Freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2024 insurance valuations. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would therefore not be material.

The properties have been reviewed for impairment.

Investment Properties

Investment properties - no property is currently deemed to not be held for the long-term purposes of the charity.

Investments

Investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value as at year-end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable, and any gains or losses on revaluation as at year-end are shown in the SOFA.

The Circuit's investments are in monetary assets classified as basic financial instruments under FRS 102 and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as Custodian Trustee. The valuation, at the market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains arising on investments at the end of the year are shown in the SOFA.

Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors and prepayments include the September 2024 stipends paid in advance, insurance premiums relating to post year-end periods, and reimbursements for a portion of manse costs receivable from Cliff College. The short-term loan to the Yorkshire West District in respect of funding for the Leeds City Mission was repaid to the Circuit during the year under review.

Creditors

Creditors include accrued expenses, grants to which the Circuit has committed for the current year not yet paid out at year-end, the quarterly assessments for September to December 2024 received in advance, and funds held for the support of presbyters and deacons.

4 Payment to Trustees

Apart from stipends paid to ministers or salaries paid to employed lay staff, there were no payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit beyond the approved reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred on behalf of the Circuit.

Trustee expenses

	2023/24	2022/23
Number of Trustees	12	14
Total amount	£24,254	£23,134

5 Fees for audit of the accounts

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Independent auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	5,056	4,600
Other fees (e.g. advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent auditor	NIL	NIL

6 Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

	2023/24	2022/23
Gross wages, salaries, and benefits in kind	£ 241,299	243,411
Employer's National Insurance costs	£ 17,341	17,744
Pension costs	£ 45,234	46,916
Total staff costs	£ 303,874	308,071

Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year were:

11	13
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7 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

There are no capital commitments as at 31 August 2024.

No contingent liabilities were identified as at 31 August 2024.

8 For information only: Money received and passed on to External Organisations

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Balance brought forward from last year		
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations	0	0
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	0	0
Balance carried forward	0	0

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost or valuation

	Land £	Manse £	Other buildings £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Payments on account and assets under construction £	Total £
Balance brought forward	0	2,962,810	1,707,439	0		4,670,249
Additions	0	0	0	0		0
Revaluations (+/-)	0	68,121	149,536	0		217,657
Disposals (-)	0	0	0	0		0
Transfers * (+/-)	0	0	0	0		0
Balance carried forward	0	3,030,931	1,856,975	0		4,887,906

Accumulated depreciation

Balance brought forward						
Depreciation charge for year (-)						
Revaluations (+/-)						
Disposals (-)						
Transfers* (+/-)						
Balance carried forward						

Net book value

Brought forward	0	2,962,810	1,707,439	0		4,670,249
Carried forward	0	3,030,931	1,856,975	0		4,887,906

Revaluations

The carrying value of manse and other buildings is revalued annually based on insurance replacement value. The carrying value of church buildings is not accounted for in the Circuit's accounts.

Disposals

No properties were disposed of during the year under review.

10 Investment assets

The circuit has no investment properties

The circuit has no common investment fund holdings

11 Loans

The Circuit had paid an amount of £12,433 to the Yorkshire West District (YWD) to provide funding for the Leeds City Mission. This was treated as a loan in the Circuit accounts in previous years, but YWD repaid this amount to the Circuit during the year under review.

12 Analysis of restricted and designated funds**2023-24**

Restricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Meeting Point Café	25,322	78,650	62,767		41,205	Outreach and community support in the Harehills area
Moortown Methodist Centre	5,184	25,118	20,488		9,814	Outreach and community support in the Moortown area
Totals	30,506	103,768	83,255		51,019	

""Comparative analysis of restricted and designated funds 2022-23

Restricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Meeting Point Café	21,153	58,585	54,416		25,322	Outreach and community support in the Harehills area
Moortown Methodist Centre	6,820	18,012	19,648		5,184	Outreach and community support in the North Leeds area
Totals	27,973	76,597	74,064		30,506	

13 Related Party transactions

This year (2023-2024)

Name of related party	Relationship	Description of transaction	Income from related party during the year	Payments to related party during the year	Loans to related party during the year	Amounts owed by related party as on 31-Aug-2024
			£	£	£	£
West Yorkshire Methodist District	Methodist body Leeds Circuits report to	Assessment	0	20,598	0	0
West Yorkshire Methodist District	Methodist body Leeds Circuits report to	Advance Fund	10,000	0	0	0
Circuit Churches	Churches that comprise the Circuit	Donations to Meeting Point	6,492	0	0	0
Circuit Churches	Churches that comprise the Circuit	Assessment payments	411,446	0	0	0
Circuit Meeting Members	Charity Trustees	Donations to support Diaconal work	0	0	0	
Methodist Church Fund	National Methodist Fund	Grant to support Meeting Point	0	0	0	
Methodist Church Fund	National Methodist Fund	Assessment	0	87,438	0	
Methodist ministers housing association	Body to support retired ministers	Grant	0	0	0	0
Total			427,938	108,036	0	0

Last year (2022-23)

Name of related party	Relationship	Description of transaction	Income from related party during the year	Payments to related party during the year	Loans to related party during the year	Amounts owed by related party as on 31-Aug-2023
			£	£	£	£
West Yorkshire Methodist District	Methodist body Leeds Circuits report to	Assessment	0	19,432	0	0
West Yorkshire Methodist District	Methodist body Leeds Circuits report to	Advance Fund	10,000	0	0	12,443
Circuit Churches	Churches that comprise the Circuit	Donations to Meeting Point	9,149	0	0	0
Circuit Churches	Churches that comprise the Circuit	Assessment payments	388,759	0	0	0
Circuit Meeting Members	Charity Trustees	Donations to support Diaconal work	0	0	0	
Methodist Church Fund	National Methodist Fund	Grant to support Meeting Point	0	0	0	
Methodist Church Fund	National Methodist Fund	Assessment	0	82,488	0	
Methodist ministers housing association	Body to support retired ministers	Grant	0	0	0	0
Total			407,908	101,920	0	12,443

**Leeds North and East Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

Introduction

This annual report needs to be read in the context of the annual accounts including the report on governance, risk management, and declarations which together all form a cohesive summary of the financial and general activities of the charity for the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024.

Each of the churches within the circuit are a charity in their own right and therefore file their own set of accounts and annual report. More detailed information on the circuit, its activities and contacts can be found on the charity's website: www.leedsnandemethodist.org.uk.

Aims and organisation

The overall aims and organisation of the Leeds North and East Circuit are set out in the Governance section (2) of the annual accounts.

The Circuit Mission Statement for the year 2023/24 was as follows:

The Churches of the Leeds North and East Methodist Circuit work together to share the Good News of Jesus Christ through worship, learning and caring, service, and evangelism.

Review of the year

Income and expenditure summary

The consolidated deficit (including movement on Model Trust Funds) was £58,152 compared to a budgeted deficit of £78,220. This is largely due to the operating deficit of £53,251 (compared to budgeted deficit of £48,970), as well as a £4,900 deficit on the Model Trust Fund (compared to budgeted deficit of £29,250; the deficit is due to the levy charged by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes on opening cash balances held by them).

The deviations from the original budget that need to be noted are as follows:

- Circuit income totalling £501,175 was £24,677 ahead of budget overall.
 - o Assessments from churches were £412 below budget.
 - o The establishment of the District Digital Enabler role and the appointment of Revd Mark Stennett in this role meant that District contributed £10,000 p.a. to the Circuit to compensate for time spent on District work.
- Circuit expenditure totalling £554,427 was £28,958 over budget overall.
 - o Ministers' stipends were £1,173 below budget, but overspends on expenses (mainly telephones, National Insurance, and travel) meant that overall ministers' costs were £10,164 over budget.
 - o Manse maintenance costs exceeded budget by £1,821.
 - o Lay employment costs were £9,555 above budget due to salary increases linked to the change in the Real Living Wage being higher than anticipated when the budget was drawn up. This increase is considered extraordinary due to the spike in inflation during the year.
 - o Grants paid out was £3,490 below budget due to the reduction in the contributions to the Methodist Ministers Housing Society and Leeds Citizens.
- The interest received on the funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes significantly exceeded the budgeted amount due to the amount of cash held on deposit as well as the higher interest rates. On the other hand, the levy charged on this cash deposit was more or less in line with budget. This resulted in the Model Trust Fund deficit being £24,350 lower than what was budgeted.

Overall reserves increased by £9,970 due to the revaluation of properties held at year-end, less the combined deficits from normal operations and the Model Trust Funds, due to a combination of the net gain on the sale of the properties and the revaluation of properties held at year-end, less the operational deficit.

The Circuit Meeting has agreed to fund certain costs from reserves in accordance with the Circuit Reserves Policy, which is reviewed from time to time.

Income trends

The bulk of the Circuit's income is from assessments paid by the Circuit churches. The amount of £411,447 represents a 5.8% increase on last year.

Expenditure trends

With the ministerial staff remaining unchanged during this Connexional year, ministerial costs have increased by £10,164. Given the high inflation that prevailed during the year, this represents a net decrease in real terms.

Lay employment staffing was unchanged during the year, with the increase in costs being due to the increase linked to the Real Living Wage, which came in at 10% with effect from 1 December 2023.

Fund balances

Total Circuit funds (excluding Trust properties) decreased from £696,210 to £656,573 due to the current deficit. The resultant year-end fund balance is sufficient to cover a full year's expenditure.

Plans for 2024/25 and 2025/26

The Circuit made the two community pastoral visitor positions redundant with effect from 31 March 2025, and had planned to reduce the number of ministers by one post from 1 September 2025.

However, following late changes in the stationing process, one of the co-Superintendents (who is currently 70% deployed within the Circuit) is also to take up a new station from 1 September 2025, with his replacement being a full-time appointment. This means that the net ministerial staff reduction is effectively 0.7 rather than a full post.

While the planned reduction in the annual deficit for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 Connexional years is still to continue in 2025/26, the original plan to achieve a balanced budget by 2025/26 has had to be postponed. However, assuming that the planned deficit for 2025/26 were to remain unchanged going forward, the current reserves are sufficient to cover this for just over 8 years.

Income trends

The bulk of the Circuit's income is from assessments paid by the Circuit churches. For 2024/25 it was proposed that assessments be increased by an average of 7%, taking total assessments up from £411,858 to £440,858.

The preliminary budget for 2024/25 initially proposed a further 10% increase in assessments, given the high levels of inflation experienced during 2023. However, by the time the church treasurers met at the beginning of 2024, it was felt that inflation was moderating sufficiently to enable this increase to be reduced to 8%.

With the proposed increases to District and Connexional assessments coming in at an estimated 2% rather than the 6% budgeted for (to be confirmed by the District treasurer), and stipend increases likely to be 6.81% (compared to the 8% figure used in the budget), there is scope to curtail the assessment increases to 7% (i.e. £440,688) while still reducing the deficit.

For 2025/26, the total assessments are to remain unchanged when compared to 2024/25, with individual church assessments to be adjusted within a -2% to +2.2% range.

The Mercia Way manse will also be occupied by a minister as from 1 September 2025, which means that the rental income that is currently received on this manse will fall away.

Expenditure trends

The effects of the two redundancies that took place in the 2024/25 Connexional year and the reduction in ministerial staff by an effective 0.7 posts from the beginning of the 2025/26 Connexional year are reflected in the staff costs table below:

	Ministerial	Lay
2021/22 (actual)	£243,481	£99,737
2022/23 (actual)	£236,138	£71,933
2023/24 (actual)	£254,506	£77,885
2024/25 (budget)	£263,661	£75,675
2025/26 (budget)	£256,743	£61,478

Significant manse maintenance costs are likely to be incurred during the 2024/25 Connexional year due to major renovations taking place as current ministers depart and new ministers are appointed – this includes fairly major work on the Station Fields manse and some minor works required on the Mercia Way and Stainbeck Lane manses.

Looking to 2025/26 and beyond

The Circuit Meeting has committed to a balanced budget by the end of the 2025/26 Connexional year. However, it was noted that while Circuit reserves have remained relatively stable due to the reduction in the annual deficits over the past few years, many of the churches are reporting significantly depleted reserve levels.

When drafting the 2025/26 budget, it was felt that overall assessments needed to be held at the same levels as 2024/25, thus representing a decrease in real terms. As already indicated, changes to the assessments of the individual churches will fall within a -2% to +2.2% range, thus providing further relief where required.

The Circuit will be closely monitoring the situation, and anticipates that one or more buildings may become available for sale or rental in coming years to bolster its reserves. In the meantime, it is projected that based on the current income and expenditure patterns, the existing reserves are sufficient to cover deficit budgets at current levels for approximately 8 years.

Accordingly, while the structure of the Circuit may undergo some further changes in years to come, the Circuit is confident that it can continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with general applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom General Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 Circuit and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Circuit will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Circuit's transactions, and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Circuit and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2015, and the provisions of the Trust deed.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Circuit, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to the auditor

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' report is approved has confirmed that

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Circuit's auditor is unaware; and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information, and to establish that the Circuit's auditor is aware of that information.

Approved by order of the members of the Circuit Meeting, and signed on their behalf by Revd Dr George Bailey, Circuit co-Superintendent and chair of the Circuit Meeting; and Revd Steven Jones, Circuit Financial Steward.

Leeds North and East Circuit

Trustee's Annual Report on Finance and Governance

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard FRS 102.

Full Name of Charity: Leeds North and East Methodist Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1131455

Main communication address:

Circuit Office, Lidgett Park Methodist Church, Lidgett Place, LEEDS LS8 1HG

The members of the Leeds North and East Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches.

Circuit Ministers and officers for the year to end of August 2024

Active Circuit Ministers	Revd George Bailey (Co-Superintendent) Revd Edward Sakwe Revd Tanya Short (Co-Superintendent) Revd Becki Stennett Revd Mark Stennett Deacon Adelha da Silva Kaka Revd Steven Jones (in other appointment)
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Circuit Lay Workers (members of Circuit meeting)	Mrs Mary Saddler
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Circuit Stewards	Mrs Barbara Belsham Mr Adrian Marshall Mrs Janice Green Mrs Anne Kirkland (Senior)
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Revd Steven Jones (Circuit Finance Steward) acted as the principal officer overseeing the day-to-day financial management and accounting for the circuit during the year.

Independent auditors:	Thomas Coombs Limited, Chartered Accountants and Business Advisers 3365 The Pentagon Century Way Thorpe Park Leeds, LS15 8ZB
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Investment Bankers:	Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
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Aims and organisation

Charity objective is to act as a Resource provider within the area around North and East Leeds for the Methodist Church.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union the advancement of:

- The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church;
- Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit. Local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non members alike.

The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.
Taking religious assemblies in local schools.
Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.
Provision of chaplaincy services to the local university and other institutions.

Public Benefit

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Structure, governance, and management

The governing document for the circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)
Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).
Day to day management of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team along with the Local Preachers meeting.
Overall accountability for circuit matters rests with the Circuit Trustees who meet usually three times a year under the Chair of the Superintendent Ministers. The Trustees are also the Key Management Personnel and collectively take all the key decisions in respect of use of resources and activities.

Trustee training

A range of guidance produced by the Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the circuit, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church', is given to all new Circuit meeting members as induction to their role as trustees.

Related Parties

The Circuit is part of the Yorkshire West District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.
The following Methodist Churches are linked to the circuit: Alwoodley Park, Barwick-in-Elmet, Chapel Allerton, Christ Church Halton*, Colton, Cross Gates, Garforth, Lidgett Park, Newbourne, Oakwood**, Roscoe, Scholes, Shadwell, and Trinity United*.
(* Local Ecumenical Partnership: Methodist / United Reformed ** Local Ecumenical Partnership: Methodist / Church of England)
The circuit also manages the Meeting Point Café in Harehills, the Moortown Methodist Church Centre, and the Repair Café in Cross Gates.

Pay policy

The circuit pays all its presbyters and deacons in Circuit appointments in line with stipend rates agreed by the Methodist Conference each year.
Ministers in other appointments receive no payment from the Methodist Church other than the reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred on behalf of the Circuit.
Lay employees are on locally agreed rates approved by the circuit meeting in general terms, and which comply with Methodist Conference advice.
No Trustees are paid in their capacity as trustees – although presbyters and deacons in Circuit appointments, and lay employees are paid for undertaking their specific agreed roles.

Risk Management

The Circuit Leadership Team and Circuit Stewards manage risk taking on a day-to-day basis. Professional advice is taken as required.
There is a regular annual review process which is undertaken and recorded.
Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total, and is compared with the approved annual budget on a half yearly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of humans in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ.
Among other things, this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God, and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults.
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable.
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.

- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

The Leeds North and East Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of the Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Leeds North and East Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice, and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

Reserves policy

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to hold a minimum sum in its current and Circuit Finance Board deposit accounts equivalent to 3 months' average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on manses and / or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches.

The circuit also holds reserves over and above this minimum which have arisen from the sale of churches and manses, or bequests.

The use of this money is currently under consideration.

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

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023-24
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
1 Donations and legacies	4	25,896	-	-	29,142	-	55,038
2 Income from monetary investments	5	6,057	26,160	-	5,313	-	37,530
3 Income from investment properties	6	26,652	-	-	24,610	-	51,262
4 Assessments on Churches		411,446	-	-	-	-	411,446
5 Capital Receipts	7	-	-	-	-	-	0
6 Grants received		10,000	-	-	-	-	10,000
7 Other charitable income		-	-	-	44,703	-	44,703
8 Total income		480,051	26,160	-	103,768	-	609,979
Expenditure							
9 Grants and donations	9	18,044	-	-	-	-	18,044
10 Salaries and associated costs	8	283,266	-	-	20,608	-	303,874
11 Property maintenance		26,843	-	-	18,050	-	44,893
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy	13	20,598	-	-	-	-	20,598
13 District Assessment & Levy	13	87,438	29,603	-	-	-	117,041
14 Depreciation		-	-	-	-	-	0
15 Office expenses	10	67,222	1,457	-	743	-	69,422
16 Other outgoings	11	29,891	-	-	43,854	-	73,745
17 Total charitable expenditure		533,302	31,060	0	83,255	0	647,617
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments							0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties							0
20 Net income/(expenditure)		-53,251	-4,900	0	20,513	0	-37,638
21 Transfers between funds		150,000	-	150,000	-	-	0
22 Other gains/(losses)	12	68,121	-	-	149,536	-	217,657
23 Net movement in funds		164,870	-154,900	0	170,049	0	180,019
24 Total funds brought forward		2,908,496	661,368	49,334	1,745,261	-	5,364,459
25 Total funds carried forward		3,073,366	506,468	49,334	1,915,310	-	5,544,478

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

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23
		£	£	£	£	£	
Income							
1 Donations and legacies	4	14,177	-	-	16,486	-	30,663
2 Income from monetary investments	5	5,428	17,607	-	664	-	23,699
3 Income from investment properties	6	15,302	-	-	21,073	-	36,375
4 Assessments on Churches		388,759	-	-	-	-	388,759
5 Capital Receipts	7	-	-	-	-	-	0
6 Grants received		10,000	-	-	-	-	10,000
7 Other charitable income		-	-	-	38,374	-	38,374
8 Total income		433,666	17,607	-	76,597	-	527,870
Expenditure							
9 Grants and donations	9	12,038	-	-	-	-	12,038
10 Salaries and associated costs	8	288,234	-	-	19,837	-	308,071
11 Property maintenance		37,302	-	-	14,984	-	52,286
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy		19,432	-	-	-	-	19,432
13 District Assessment & Levy	13	82,488	42,897	-	-	-	125,385
14 Depreciation		-	-	-	-	-	0
15 Office expenses	10	56,107	1,963	-	760	-	58,830
16 Other outgoings	11	25,579	-	-	38,483	-	64,062
17 Total charitable expenditure		521,180	44,860	0	74,064	0	640,104
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments							0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties							
20 Net income/(expenditure)		-87,514	-27,253	0	2,533	0	-112,234
21 Transfers between funds		-	-				0
22 Other gains/(losses)	12	234,652	-	-	123,561	-	358,213
23 Net movement in funds		147,138	-27,253	0	126,094	0	245,979
24 Total funds brought forward		2,761,358	688,621	49,334	1,619,167		5,118,480
25 Total funds carried forward		2,908,496	661,368	49,334	1,745,261	-	5,364,459

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023-24 £	Total 2022-23 £
4. Income - Donations and legacies								
4.1 Donations		25,896			29,142		55,038	30,663
4.2 Legacies							0	0
Total		25,896	-	-	29,142	-	55,038	30,663
5. Income - Monetary investments								
5.1 Central Finance Board		3,571					3,571	1,951
5.2 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		2,467	26,160		5,313		33,940	19,695
5.3 Current accounts		19					19	2,053
5.4 Other							0	0
Total		6,057	26,160	-	5,313	-	37,530	23,699
6. Income - Investment properties								
6.1 Rental income - Meeting Point flat					4,805		4,805	3,725
6.2 Rental income - Moortown Methodist Centre					19,805		19,805	17,348
6.3 Rental income - Circuit manses		26,652					26,652	15,302
6.4 Other							0	0
Total		26,652	-	-	24,610	-	51,262	36,375
7. Income - Capital receipts								
7.1 Proceeds on sale - churches			-				0	0
7.2 Other							0	0
Total		-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2024 - NOTES (continued)

Notes to the accounts	Circuit Model		Designated		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Trust (Unrestricted)	Funds (unrestricted)					
	£	£	£		£	£	£	£
8. Expenditure - Salaries and associated costs								
8.1 Gross wages, salaries, and benefits-in-kind	220,691				20,608		241,299	243,411
8.2 Employer's National Insurance costs	17,341						17,341	17,744
8.3 Employer's pension costs	45,234						45,234	46,916
Total	283,266	-	-		20,608	-	303,874	308,071
9. Expenditure - Grants and donations								
9.1 Grants (Meeting Point - operating shortfall)	-						0	0
9.2 Grants (Meeting Point - assistant manager post)	-						0	0
9.3 Grants (Meeting Point - manager employer's NI)	3,229						3,229	1,793
9.4 Grants (WIFCOS)	2,665						2,665	0
9.5 Grants (Methodist Ministers Housing Society)	80						80	1,640
9.6 Grants (Leeds Citizens)	-						0	2,000
9.7 Grants (Leeds Methodist Extension Society)	-						0	0
9.8 Grants (University Chaplaincy)	10,000						10,000	0
9.9 Grants (WYDAN)	2,000						2,000	2,000
9.10 Grants (other)	70						70	4,605
Total	18,044	-	-		-	-	18,044	12,038
10. Expenditure - Office expenses								
10.1 Travel	10,918						10,918	7,511
10.2 Telephones and internet (Circuit Office, Meeting Point)	2,317				743		3,060	2,154
10.3 Telephones and internet (ministers and lay staff)	9,634						9,634	8,616
10.4 Photocopying (net of recoveries)	-						0	658
10.5 Postage, stationery, and other	6,742						6,742	6,334
10.6 Council Tax	13,615						13,615	12,956
10.7 Insurance	5,999						5,999	5,485
10.8 Water	4,561						4,561	2,673
10.9 Other	13,436	1,457					14,893	12,443
Total	67,222	1,457	-		743	-	69,422	58,830

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2024 - NOTES (continued)

Notes to the accounts	Circuit Model		Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Trust (Unrestricted)					
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
11. Expenditure - Other outgoings							
11.1 Lecturer allowance (Cliff College)	1,692					1,692	1,692
11.2 Assessments paid - ecumenical partnerships	11,367					11,367	5,783
11.3 Audit fees	5,056					5,056	4,600
11.4 Expenses relating to sold properties (churches)	-					0	0
11.5 Expenses relating to sold properties (manses)	-					0	0
11.6 Expenses relating to closed churches	10,679					10,679	12,881
11.7 Expenses related to aborted projects	-					0	0
11.8 Honoraria - supernumerary ministers	1,097					1,097	623
11.9 Other expenses (Meeting Point & Moortown)				43,854		43,854	38,483
Total	29,891	-	-	43,854	-	73,745	64,062

12. Other gains / (losses)

12.1 Net proceeds of trust properties sold (manses)		-				0	0
12.2 Revaluation of trust properties (manses, projects)	68,121			149,536		217,657	358,213
12.3 Less: Carrying amount of trust properties sold (manses)		-		-		0	0
Total	68,121	-	-	149,536	-	217,657	358,213

13. District assessments and levy

The District assessment is calculated relative to the proportion of church members and staffing (ordained staff only) of all Circuits in the Yorkshire West District. A further adjustment is made to take into account an agreed maximum increase / decrease for each Circuit relative to the previous year.

The District levy is calculated on a sliding scale percentage of the Circuit's Model Trust Fund balance with Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes as at 31 August of the previous year.

District assessments	87,438	
District levy		29,603

14. Payments to Trustees

Payments made to Trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting	0	0
Payments made to Trustees for reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the Circuit	24,254	23,134
Number of Trustees to whom expenses were paid	12	14

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

	Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2023/24 £	Totals 2022/23 £	
Fixed Assets									
Circuit Manses & Equipment	15	3,030,931			0		3,030,931	2,962,810	R
Investment properties	16	0			1,856,975	0	1,856,975	1,707,439	R
Investments	-						0	0	
Total fixed assets		3,030,931	0	0	1,856,975	0	4,887,906	4,670,249	
Current Assets									
Debtors	17	22,984	0	0	0	0	22,984	32,677	S
Loans by the Circuit	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	12,433	
Investments with TMCP	-	0	506,468	49,334			555,802	560,702	
Central Finance Board Deposits	-	114,899			43,132		158,031	163,545	T
Cash at Bank and in hand	19	10,757	0	0	15,204	0	25,961	30,406	
Total current assets		148,640	506,468	49,334	58,336	0	762,778	799,763	
Current liabilities									
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	20	104,525	0	0	0	0	104,525	100,313	U
Grants payable within 2021-22	21	1,680	0	0	0	0	1,680	5,240	V
Total current liabilities		106,205	0	0	0	0	106,205	105,553	
Net current assets/liabilities		42,435	506,468	49,334	58,336	0	656,573	694,210	
Total assets less current liabilities		3,073,366	506,468	49,334	1,915,311	0	5,544,479	5,364,459	
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)									
Grants payable after 2021-22							0	0	V
Loans to the Circuit							0	0	
Net assets		3,073,366	506,468	49,334	1,915,311	0	5,544,479	5,364,459	W

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

Notes to the
Accounts

General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2023/24
£	£	£	£	£	£

Totals 2022/23
£

GN

Funds of the Circuit

General Fund (Unrestricted)		3,073,366				3,073,366	3,058,496
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			506,468			506,468	511,368
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)				49,334		49,334	49,334
<i>Total Unrestricted Funds</i>						3,629,168	3,619,198
Restricted Funds				1,915,311		1,915,311	1,745,261
Endowment Funds					0	0	0
<i>Total Funds</i>		3,073,366	506,468	49,334	1,915,311	5,544,479	5,364,459
		0	0	0	1	1	0

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Signed



Circuit Treasurer

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024 - NOTES

GN

Notes to the
Accounts**15. Circuit manses and equipment**

15.1 120 Stainbeck Lane, Leeds West Yorkshire, LS7 3QS
15.2 16 Kingswood Gardens, Leeds West Yorkshire, LS8 2BT
15.3 7 Gledhow Park Road, Leeds West Yorkshire, LS7 4JX
15.4 52 Nursery Lane, Leeds West Yorkshire, LS17 7HW
15.5 2 Elmete Walk, Leeds West Yorkshire, LS8 2LB
15.6 11 Mercia Way, Leeds West Yorkshire, LS15 8UA
15.7 29 Station Fields, Garforth, Leeds West Yorkshire, LS25 1PS
15.8 8 Primrose Close, Leeds West Yorkshire, LS15 7RT
Total

General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2023/24 £	Totals 2022/23 £
543,583					543,583	531,366
502,812					502,812	491,511
-					0	0
441,322					441,322	431,403
441,664					441,664	431,738
318,312					318,312	311,158
396,024					396,024	387,123
387,214					387,214	378,511
3,030,931					3,030,931	2,962,810

16. Investment properties

16.1 409 Harehills Lane, Leeds West Yorkshire, LS9 6AP
16.2 Alderton Rise, Leeds West Yorkshire, LS17 5LH
Total

-		409,935		409,935	360,658
-		1,447,040		1,447,040	1,346,781
-		1,856,975	-	1,856,975	1,707,439

17. Debtors

17.1 Prepaid salaries
17.2 Other prepayments
17.3 Other debtors
Total

19,347				19,347	19,040
-				0	0
3,637				3,637	13,637
22,984	-	-	-	22,984	32,677

18. Loans by the Circuit

18.1 Yorkshire West District
Total

-				0	12,433
-	-	-	-	-	12,433

19. Cash at bank and in hand

19.1 Current account - CAF Bank
19.2 Current account - Barclays Bank
19.3 Current account - Yorkshire Bank / Virgin Money
19.4 Cash on hand
Total

10,757				10,757	3,010
		8,947		8,947	25,223
		6,157		6,157	2,073
		100		100	100
10,757	-	-	15,204	-	25,961
					30,406

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024 - NOTES (continued)

GN

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2023/24	Totals 2022/23
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
20. Creditors (due in under 1 year)							
20.1 Church assessments received in advance	91,559					91,559	78,477
20.2 Grants received in advance	-					0	0
20.3 Other creditors	12,966					12,966	21,836
Total	104,525	-	-	-	-	104,525	100,313
21. Grants payable within current year							
21.1 Meeting Point - operating shortfall	-					0	0
21.2 Meeting Point - assistant manager gross pay	-					0	0
21.3 Meeting Point - assistant manager employer's NI	-					0	0
21.4 WIFCOS	-					0	0
21.5 Methodist Ministers Housing Society	1,680					1,680	3,240
21.6 Leeds Mission	-					0	0
21.7 WYDAN	-					0	0
21.8 Other grants payable within current year	-					0	0
Total	1,680	-	-	-	-	1,680	3,240

Cash flow statement for the year ended 31 August 2024

Statement of cash flows	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities		-116,084	-190,990
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest income		37,530	23,699
Rental income		51,262	36,375
Proceeds from the sale of investment property		-	-
Net cash provided by investing activities		88,792	60,074
Cash flows from financing activities			
New borrowing		0	0
Repayments of borrowing		12,433	0
Net cash used in financing activities		12,433	0
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		-14,859	-130,916
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		754,653	885,569
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		739,794	754,653

Cash flow statement for the year ended 31 August 2024 (Continued)

	2024	2023
	£	£
Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities		
Net income for the reporting period (as per statement of financial activities)	180,019	245,979
Adjustments for:		
Interest & rental income	- 88,792	-60,074
Profit on the sale of investment property	-	-
Gains on investments	- 217,657	358,213
(increase)/decrease in debtors	9,694	-9,425
increase/(decrease) in creditors	652	-9,257
Net cash used in operating activities	-116,084	-190,990
	2024	2023
	£	£
Analysis of cash and cash equivalent		
Cash in hand	739,794	754,653
Short term deposit (less than 3 months)	0	0
Total cash and cash equivalents	739,794	754,653
	0	0

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of Leeds North and East Methodist Circuit

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Leeds North and East Methodist Circuit (the 'charity') for the year ended 31st August 2024 which comprise of Statement of Financial Activities, the Statement of Financial position and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31st August 2024, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- the charity has not kept adequate accounting records; or

- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on pages 2 to 7, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- The engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with management, and from our commercial knowledge of the sector.
- We focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts of the operations of the Charity, including the Charities Act 2011.
- We assess the extent of compliance with laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management.
- Identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- Making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud.
- Considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- Performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships.
- Identified and tested journal entries and identified any significant transactions that were unusual or outside the normal course of business.
- Investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.
- Challenged assumptions and judgements made by management in determining significant accounting estimates.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed audit procedures

which included, but were not limited to:

- Agreeing financial statements disclosures to underlying supporting documentation.
- Discussions with management of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing any correspondence with relevant regulators including the Charities Commission.

At the completion stage of the audit, the engagement partner's review included ensuring the team had approached their work with appropriate professional scepticism and thus the capacity to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance of laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it.

Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement relating to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Thomas Coombs Limited

~~24~~ June 2025

Thomas Coombs Limited
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
3365 The Pentagon
Century Way
Thorpe Park
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS15 8ZB

Leeds North and East Circuit
DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that these accrual-based accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit Meeting.

Signature of
Treasurer



Date

3 June 2025

Name of Treasurer

Revd Steven Jones

Address

37 Fletchers Way, Allerton Bywater, Castleford WF10 2FL

Presentation to the Circuit Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 Aug 2024 ~~were,~~
~~or will be*~~ presented to the Circuit Meeting at its meeting on

**24 June
2025**

and were approved.

Signature of the
Chair of the meeting



Name of the Chair
of the meeting

Revd George Bailey

Date

3 June 2025
