



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date			Period end date				
From	01	09	2023	To	31	08	2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name Linacre Methodist Mission & Neighbourhood Centre

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1134158

Charity's principal address 123-129 Linacre Road

Litherland

Liverpool

Postcode

L21 8NS

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

		Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
	1	Rev Ian Hu			Ex Officio
	2	Rev Neil Stubbens	Chair		Ex Officio
	3	Rev Sue Edwards	Vice chair		Ex Officio
	4	John Langton	Secretary		General Church Meeting- GCM
	5	Jean Barnes	Church Steward		GCM
	6	Sandra Bell	Church Steward		GCM
	8	Val Cousins			GCM
	9	Joan Cumming			GCM
	10	Dot Dickson	Church Steward		GCM
	11	Val Gee	Church Steward		GCM
	12	Nigel Harrison			GCM
	13	Margaret Langton			GCM
	14	Viv Marriott	Church Steward		GCM
	16	Liz Shaw			GCM
	17	Margaret Wheeler			GCM
	18	David Smith	Circuit Steward		Circuit Meeting
	19				
	20				
	21				

	Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)	
	Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Act of Parliament
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by General Church meeting and Circuit meeting, some ex officio and existing trustees.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- Trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Induction/Training

Range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion, including a leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' given to each trustee.

Structure

We are part of the Liverpool North Circuit which is part of the Liverpool Methodist District which is in turn accountable to the Methodist Conference.

Related Parties We do not use a professional fundraiser or work with a commercial participator,

Risks

- Considered by the Church Council.
- Take professional advice as required.
- Regular review process.
- Adopted the following policies: Confidentiality, Conflict of interest, Data Protection, Equal Opportunities, Health & Safety, Lone Worker, Safeguarding, Volunteering, Reserves.

Equal Opportunities Statement

The trustees are committed to making every effort to ensure that all members of the community have an equal opportunity to join in activities and events in the Church and Neighbourhood Centre, avoiding any unlawful discrimination.

The Church and Neighbourhood Centre strives to ensure that the environment is free of harassment and bullying, and that everyone is treated with dignity and respect.

Particular care will be taken to deal effectively with any complaints of discrimination, harassment or bullying.

Safeguarding Statement

Safeguarding of all people who use the premises continues to be a high priority and we remain diligent in applying all safeguarding measures of the Methodist Church. All Trustees, employees and volunteers undergo DBS checks and 'Creating Safer Space' training & Safer Recruitment as and when appropriate.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document.

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.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

- To carry out religious activities.
- To provide premises for use by a wide range of community groups and activities.
- To carry out youth work, uniformed and non-uniformed.

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

We have not had any serious incidents which require reporting to the Charity Commission.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment
- contribution made by volunteers.

Linacre Methodist Mission is a faith-based organisation, managing a Grade II Listed Building that has stood at the heart of the neighbourhood, known locally as Linacre, for over 100 years. The Main Worship Hall's architecture was revolutionary in style, when it was built in 1905, resulting in a building that was regarded as one of the most striking in the North of England. The interior is arranged in amphitheatre style to seat 1,250 people and has a large platform with seating for 100 in the choir. Although the Hall has been modernised, much of the original structure remains.

The spaciousness of the Hall, the magnificent mosaic text above the choir created by Italian craftsmen and the richly decorated ceiling can still be admired.

We believe that in Jesus, God showed us how life could be lived to the full. Christianity is not about some dour, dull, and repressed lifestyle, but about delighting in the world that God has made, rejoicing in the friendships he gives and celebrating the joy that comes through knowing Jesus. Our programme here at Linacre seeks to reflect the 'fullness of life' that Jesus wants us to know. Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

The geographical area of Litherland is an area with a high level of social deprivation, above average mortality rates for both male and female and a higher percentage of persons with below average mental wellbeing in comparison with the rest of the Borough of

Sefton. Therefore, in addition to our faith activity, Linacre Mission is fully committed to serving and supporting the local community, to tackle its general needs and enhance its quality of life. At present the building delivers activities for older people, children and young people and family-based activities. This facility is vast, with over 1,600 sq.m² of floor space distributed throughout a diverse series of community rooms and large halls. The building has been identified as an important landmark in the area.

It is the vision of Linacre Mission, in partnership with the local community and other key stakeholders, to be a 'beacon' for local community engagement and support, as well as a strategic facility providing wider benefits to the surrounding South Sefton environs and engaging in local social and economic regeneration in this key focus of multiple deprivation in Merseyside. All activities within Linacre are carried out by volunteers. We have a regular core group of approximately 10 volunteers supported by a less regular group of approximately 10 people.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

September 2023 saw the formation of the new North Liverpool and South Sefton Circuit (NL&SS) headed by Revd Ian Hu.

We began with our regular programme with Harvest Festival which this year was an 'own arrangement' service. In October we celebrated our Church Anniversary as we were led in worship by Rev Sue Edwards. In December we commenced our Christmas celebrations with our Carols by Candlelight. This is always well attended by the local community and users of our building. In January we held our annual Covenant Service when we re dedicated ourselves to the work of God..

During Advent we looked at the film, 'It's a wonderful life,' as part of our Bible study programme. In Lent we looked at 'The prayers of Jesus,' and as part of Bible Month we studied the Book of Genesis. We held our annual General Church Meeting in June to appoint our Church Stewards and to look back and celebrate the past year.

Sadly, In June we lost one of our regular members, but we were able to celebrate her life with her family.

We continue to host the Liverpool Peniel Christian Church, an Indian Church, who now worship in the Albert Walker Hall every Sunday, and the Divine Ministries Nigerian Church also on Sunday mornings.

Neighbourhood Centre Review

We are registered as a Place of Welcome/Warm Space and continue to manage to obtain funding to purchase food. We offer free meals to anyone who wishes to attend along with the opportunity to make friends and enjoy a warm environment. The numbers attending grow weekly. We feed approximately 60+ people on a regular basis. At the same time as Place of Welcome, a Community Pantry is held on our premises giving local people the opportunity to purchase food more cheaply.

Our **Community Bingo** continues to be extremely popular on a monthly basis and is self-funding. We give prizes, including vouchers for Tesco or Asda. The Bingo engages with a wide range of people, from 90-year-olds to young children. We are able to pay for the hire of the room and to donate money to the Church. The atmosphere is always one of enjoyment and excitement. Numbers regularly achieve between 55 to 60.

Hampers. Grants have enabled us to purchase food to provide hampers at Christmas for needy families identified through our local schools. Each 'hamper' consists of 4 large shopping bags containing food and household items.

The Neighbourhood Centre continues to be a very busy distribution centre for the Trussell Trust **Food bank** every Friday. Food Bank regularly feeds around 17 to 25 families weekly.

Tiny Steps our preschool group, continues to meet regularly on a Wednesday. Parents, Grandparents and Child Minders bring pre-school children to play together and develop their social skills. This is also an opportunity to work with parents in helping them to play with their children and to develop the child's language skills through communicating together.

Rainbows continue to have a full complement and a waiting list.

Youth Club run by Sefton Youth Services meet on Tuesday nights. The young people attending continue to have a safe place to meet and to receive a variety of activities, training, and opportunities.

Sefton Youth Services run The Duke of Edinburgh scheme. Numbers continue to grow and about 25 children currently attend the centre.

Feelgood Drop in. This group meets on a Friday morning and is open to anyone with mental health issues. Volunteers are able to assist with form filling or to signpost to other assistance.

St. John Ambulance continue to meet weekly to train people in First Aid.

Child and Family Connect offer supervised contact for children and parents in a safe environment.

Cake & Catch Up. Every Wednesday we offer a social group for older people when we play games, eat cake and generally enjoy two hours of social interaction.

Many organisations continue to book our premises for meetings and conferences such as Sefton Council and Sefton CVS.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Aims

- (1) To secure and sustain the church's viability and future.
- (2) To give reassurance to the general public that the church, which is a charity, intends to use all of the money coming into its care for the purposes of the charity.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Financial plans

Linacre Mission building is over 100 years old and had a major upgrade in 2010/2011. The building has many areas requiring attention and there will always be a need for maintenance in such a big building.

The fire alarm, security alarm and lifts also continue to cause a strain on our finances. On a Grade II listed building of this size, the cost of any repairs is high and therefore contingency finance has to be in place. Increasing costs of ministry are likely to result in increased assessments being paid to the Circuit. The aim is to generate income from Gift Aid and through increased rental income and to be able to put aside donations that are given to the church.

General Fund (Unrestricted)

The reserves policy is to hold at least six months expenditure in hand. Based on the proposed budget these reserves are believed to be reasonable, and a balanced budget is proposed.

Section F

Other optional information

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Section G

Declaration

**The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees**

Signature(s)

Rev.S. Edwards

J.Langton

Full name(s)

Susan Edwards

John Langton

Position (e.g. Secretary, Chair, etc)

Vice Chair

Sec

Date

June 2025

June 2025

	Notes to the accounts	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment funds	Total 23-24	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
		£	£	£			
Tangible fixed assets							
Land and buildings		2,000,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00
Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment							
investments				2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Total fixed assets		2,000,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,002,000.00	2,002,000.00	2,002,000.00
Current Assets							
Debtors and prepayments	20					0.00	0.00
Cash in Bank and in hand	21	2,215.67	13,308.27		15,523.94	27,534.88	56,992.60
Central finance Board deposits		57,576.14			57,576.14	113,011.57	421.38
Total current assets		59,791.81	13,308.27	0.00	73,100.08	140,546.45	57,413.98
Creditors and accruals (due in under 1 year)						0.00	
Net Current Assets (liabilities)		59,791.81	13,308.27	0.00	73,100.08	140,546.45	57,413.98
Total Assets less current liabilities		2,059,791.81	13,308.27	2,000.00	2,075,100.08	2,142,546.45	2,059,413.98
Loans and creditors due after 1 year							
Provisions for liabilities and charges							
Net Assets		2,059,791.81	13,308.27	2,000.00	2,075,100.08	2,142,546.45	2,059,413.98
Funds of the church							
Unrestricted funds		2,059,791.81				2,075,288.46	2,045,305.83
Restricted funds			13,308.27			65,257.99	12,108.15
Endowment funds				2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000.00
Total funds		2,059,791.81	13,308.27	2,000.00	2,075,100.08	2,142,546.45	2,059,413.98

**Linacre Methodist Mission and Neighbourhood Centre
Notes to the Accounts For The Year Ended 31 August 2024**

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of LMNMC, named above

LMNMC's trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 present a true and fair view of LMNMC's income and expenditure for the year and of its assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The trustees consider that an audit is not necessary for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

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

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

Independent Examiner's Statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than as disclosed below*) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011

to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2011

have not been met, or

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

(3) I have not obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner.....
E Caldwell

Name of independent examiner ... Elizabeth Caldwell..... Date 3/3/25

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ...