

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024
FOR
BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**J W Hinks LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
19 Highfield Road
Edgbaston
Birmingham
B15 3BH**

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 9
Report of the Independent Auditors	10 to 12
Statement of Financial Activities	13
Balance Sheet	14 to 15
Cash Flow Statement	16
Notes to the Cash Flow Statement	17
Notes to the Financial Statements	18 to 34

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Methodists belong to local churches or ecumenical partnerships, but also feel part of a larger connected community, the Connexion. There are around 4,000 Methodist churches across the country, grouped within circuits. Birmingham Methodist District is one of 30 districts within the Methodist Church in Britain and comprises some 120 - 130 churches, grouped in 10 circuits across Birmingham, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Herefordshire and Staffordshire.

District Policy Statement

"The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission. It does this through worship learning and caring, service and evangelism."

The Birmingham Methodist District seeks to be a network of communities where people are included and grow, being transformed by the love of God and sharing their story of God's grace. In collaboration with others where possible the District is committed to creating safer spaces and working for a just and sustainable world. We have a vision for a growing, evangelistic, justice-seeking and inclusive church without walls. In the power of the Holy Spirit, we seek to grow disciples of Jesus Christ. Growing ...

- o in numbers of new disciples,
- o in depth of discipleship,
- o in the transformation of communities and society.

Ensuring our work delivers our aims

We review our aims, objectives and activities each year. This review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work in the previous 12 months. The review looks at the success of each key activity and the benefits they have brought to those groups of people we are set up to help. The review also helps us to ensure that our aim, objectives and activities remained focused on our stated purposes.

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

The focus of our work

The focus of our work continues to be that of a charity set up to be a network of communities where people are included and grow, being transformed by the love of God and sharing their story of God's grace.

Public benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commissioners' general guidance on public benefit and, in particular, to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing our objectives, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

Our charitable activities have been carried out within the framework of our policy statement, namely with the aim of growth, not only within Methodism in Birmingham but also growth in the outworking of our discipleship, by seeking to work for the public benefit of the community around us. Our chaplaincy and other projects demonstrate our aim to show the love of Jesus Christ outside the church walls.

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Grantmaking

The Resourcing Mission Committee meets three times a year to oversee the finance function of the district, to oversee district property and to approve grants to circuits and churches within the District.

Volunteers

Birmingham Methodist District is heavily reliant on volunteers at church, circuit and district level. Volunteers give their time and skills to further the aims of the district. Much of this work is by serving on committees and by acting as trustees. The district is grateful to all of them for their help and commitment.

Trustees

Reimbursements of expenses paid to trustees are disclosed in the notes to the accounts. Payments to trustees for services that are required by the District are also disclosed in the accounts. The District Council ensures that any such services are in the best interests of the District. Measures are in place to ensure that no conflict of interest arises from any such payment.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

In the year to 31 August 2024 resources have been deployed in the following ways.

- o Our new District Treasurer was appointed during the year ended 31 August 2024 and thanks were expressed to our outgoing District Treasurer who had served for many years.
- o The fully signed audited accounts were uploaded to the Charity Commission website as required.
- o Property projects ranging from simple improvements costing less than £10,000 to major schemes costing over £500,000 were approved. Churches continue to improve their facilities for the disabled and have also installed energy-saving measures with 27 churches across the District achieving A Rocha Eco-Church awards - 16 bronze, 10 silver and one gold award.
- o The District Youth Team held another successful District Amplify youth weekend in March 2024 and the Birmingham District was well represented at the 3Gen Youth event.
- o The Street Ecclesial Community - Street Banquet is aiming to increase the community of hosts for this faith-rooted dining event in Birmingham city centre. Approximately one-third of the Street Banquet's former guests are now hosts of this emerging Christian community.
- o The New Places for New People Mission has seen two 'God for All' Circuit-led projects making a wonderful start this year - Peckwood Forrest Church in the Bromsgrove and Redditch Circuit and the Stechford Project in the Birmingham Circuit. The Birmingham District is also hosting the Connexional faith-rooted Community Organising pilot which is aimed at supporting local church leaders to embed community organising practices into their missional goals.
- o The Birmingham District has links with the Kadoma Methodist District in Zimbabwe and a team of 7 made a successful visit to Zimbabwe for 10 days in October 2023.

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2024 shows incoming resources of £1,282,649 (2023: £2,257,891) and resources expended of £1,129,660 (2023: £1,125,758), generating a surplus of income over expenditure totalling £152,989 (2023: £1,132,133).

As a result, the District's net assets have increased from £5,947,562 as at 31 August 2023 to £6,100,551 as at 31 August 2024.

Included within net assets as at 31 August 2024 are general and designated funds with a carrying value of £5,044,132 (2023: £3,815,110) and 3 restricted funds with a carrying value of £1,056,419 (2023: 8 restricted funds with a carrying value of £2,132,452).

No fund was in deficit as at 31 August 2024.

Income for the year ended 31 August 2024 has decreased compared to the year ended 31 August 2023 largely due to the recognition of an exceptional donation totalling £1,146,691 recognised by the District during the year ended 31 August 2023. This consisted of assets transferred to the Birmingham District of the Methodist Church on 1 September 2022 from the Birmingham Methodist Circuit. Synod initially delegated responsibility for the management of this fund to Birmingham Methodist Circuit but the responsibility reverted to the District in September 2022 following a change in Birmingham Methodist Circuit's constitution. This fund is ring-fenced for activities within Birmingham city centre and decisions regarding grants from the City Centre Fund are made by the District Resourcing Mission Committee. The assets transferred were cash at bank amounting to £693,767 and a freehold property located at 47 Grove Avenue, Birmingham amounting to £452,922.

No such exceptional items have been recognised by the Birmingham District of the Methodist Church during the year ended 31 August 2024.

The District continues to own the District manse at 36 Amesbury Road, Birmingham and Wesley International House, Birmingham (one of two Methodist properties in Birmingham and managed by Birmingham International Student Homes, a separate charity). The District also continues to own 47 Grove Avenue, the manse occupied by Rev Neil Johnson, which had been acquired by the City Centre Fund in March 2022 for £452,922, before the transfer of the City Centre Fund from Birmingham Methodist Circuit to Birmingham Methodist District on 1 September 2022.

The trustees have agreed the fair value of the District manse at £750,000 as at 31 August 2024 (2023: £750,000) and Wesley International House at £3,000,000 as at 31 August 2024 (2023: £3,000,000). The combined value of freehold property (including 47 Grove Avenue) of £4,202,922 (2023: £4,202,922) is shown within tangible fixed assets as disclosed in note 11 to the financial statements.

Investment policy and performance

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, money for long term investment is lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) or with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (CFB). TMCP is the legal owner and custodian trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property including legacies, endowments and accumulated funds. CFB manages a common deposit fund and a series of pooled investment funds for Methodist entities in Great Britain. Interest rates from deposits with TMCP and CFB reflect deposit rates available elsewhere. The investment policy of Birmingham Methodist District is aligned with those of TMCP and CFB who take into account the social, environmental and ethical considerations that make investments suitable for the Methodist Church.

Interest received during the year ended 31 August 2024 was £100,979 (2023: £58,410).

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

Reserves are represented by the fund balances as disclosed in the balance sheet on page 16 of the financial statements.

The balance sheet shows unrestricted reserves (reserves that do not carry any restrictions on how they can be used) of £5,044,132 as at 31 August 2024 (2023: £3,815,110). In assessing our level of free reserves as at 31 August 2024 we also exclude tangible fixed assets totalling £3,750,000 (2023: £3,750,000) and designated fund balances totalling £1,228,687 (2023: £15,270). This leaves free reserves totalling £65,445 as at 31 August 2024 (2023: free reserves totalling £49,840).

The General Fund derives its income principally from circuit contributions (also known as assessments). The majority of this income is paid over to the central Methodist Church Fund, the balance of circuit contributions being held within the General Fund, to finance the day-to-day running costs of the District. The trustees believe that the balance on the General Fund should be in the region of £30K to £40K to cover four to six months of District running costs. If the District makes a surplus over budget for any particular year that surplus is returned to the circuits via a future budget. Taking this into account we believe that the amount held within the General Fund at 31 August 2024 is in line with our reserves policy.

The Manse Major Repair Fund seeks to build up a reserve, by means of annual transfers from the General Fund, to be used for any significant costs that may arise in the future relating to the district manse.

Income in the District Advance Fund is derived principally from distributions from the Connexional Priority Fund (i.e. from central Methodist sources) and from levies on trust funds held at circuit level (i.e. from local Methodist sources). Decisions regarding District Advance Fund spending and its allocation to projects are made by the Resourcing Mission Committee. Reserves held in the District Advance Fund will be sufficient to cover the future grant commitments from that fund. The reserves policy of the District Advance Fund is that at any point in time the total of the future commitments from the District Advance Fund will not exceed the cash held within that fund. At the same time the District ensures that future grant commitments almost match the amount held within the District Advance Fund, meaning that there will not be excess reserves held within the District Advance Fund.

For all restricted funds the reserves policy is to hold grants and donations within dedicated ring-fenced funds, to be used for the specific purposes of those grants and donations.

Going concern

The trustees of the District have every reason to believe that the District is a going concern. The circuits continue to meet their assessments and reserves are considered adequate. Reserves policies are reviewed annually. There are no subsidiary undertakings. Methodist membership is in decline across all districts with a resultant loss of income at church level. However, proceeds from the sale of church buildings are partly used to meet ongoing costs at circuit level, including the circuits' assessment payments to the District.

BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

FUTURE PLANS

Our plans for the year ended 31 August 2025 include the following.

- o Merger between the Birmingham District of the Methodist Church and the Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury District of the Methodist Church

The proposed merger between the Birmingham District of the Methodist Church and the Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury District of the Methodist Church was approved by the two District Synods in April 2024.

It was recommended and approved at the Methodist Conference in June 2024 that the two Districts will become one combined West Midlands District with effect from September 2025.

Work will proceed before the merger becomes effective in September 2025 to ensure that all aspects of each District's work will come together, and that the merger takes place smoothly by the end of August 2025.

The Birmingham District's mission and ministries work will continue alongside these preparations.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The district is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976 and the Deed of Union 1932.

Organisational structure

Individual Methodist churches are grouped within circuits which are in turn grouped within districts. All districts, circuits and churches are part of the Methodist "Connexion" (see **related parties** below). Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference which meets once a year. The Connexional Office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as ministers) within circuits. Connexional decisions are passed to the districts for implementation. The District Synod meets twice a year.

Governance

The district operates within a statutory framework of regulation and seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders.

Key management remuneration

In the trustees' opinion, the key management personnel of the District responsible for the direction, control, running and operation of the District on a day-to-day basis consists of the Board of Trustees.

Key management personnel - trustees

All of the trustees give of their time freely and no trustee received remuneration during the year ended 31 August 2024 with the exception of the following trustees.

During the year ended 31 August 2024 the District Chair, whose salary is paid from central Methodist funds, received remuneration totalling £48,267 (2023: £45,826).

Additionally, during the year ended 31 August 2024 the Rev N Bishop, who was appointed a trustee on 25 January 2024, received remuneration totalling £6,703 (2023: £nil).

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Management

The District Council meets four times a year. The responsibilities of the District Council, as laid down in Methodist Standing Orders, are as follows.

- o To formulate and promote policies which will advance the mission of the Church in the circuits and local churches and in particular to supervise the use of resources of personnel, property and finance and to assist local churches and circuits having exceptional problems.
- o To encourage inter-circuit and ecumenical co-operation.
- o To act in an executive capacity remitted to the Council by the Synod.
- o To keep within its purview all district concerns not dealt with elsewhere.
- o To contribute and respond, as the case may be, to the development of connexional policies as reflected in the work of the Conference and the Methodist Council and to carry out its other responsibilities with any such development in mind.

The District Council oversees the work of the Resourcing Mission Committee, stationing, safeguarding, authorisations to preside at communion, extensions to local preacher training and other matters as necessary.

Related parties

Methodist entities, whether they be districts, circuits or churches, are obliged to register as individual charities if they meet the requirements of registration laid down by the Charity Commission.

Birmingham Methodist District receives income from the circuits within the Birmingham District. All of the circuits are registered charities. Contributions from circuits, sometimes known as "the circuit assessment", are used to pay contributions to the central Methodist Church Fund and to meet the day-to-day running costs of the District. In the year to 31 August 2024 income from circuit assessments totalled £626,196 (2023: £586,500). In addition, the District receives from each circuit holding a Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF), a levy based on the size of the CMTF at the start of the year. In the year to 31 August 2024 the total levy, credited automatically to the District Advance Fund by TMCP, was £340,733 (2023: £104,895).

Methodist Church in Britain (MCB) is the largest Methodist entity, based at 25 Tavistock Place, London, and is an individual charity. During the year ended 31 August 2024 the Birmingham Methodist District paid £554,750 (2023: £508,495) to the Methodist Church Fund as a contribution towards the running costs of MCB. The District Advance Fund receives annual grant income from the Connexional Priority Fund held within the accounts of MCB. During the year ended 31 August 2024 £70,679 was received from the Connexional Priority Fund (2023: £190,937).

Wesley International House is a freehold property held by TMCP as custodian trustees for Birmingham Methodist District. A separate charity called Birmingham International Student Homes (BISH) is responsible for all aspects of the upkeep and maintenance of Wesley International House. BISH reports annually to Birmingham Methodist District Council.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Fundraising

The majority of the District's income is derived from circuit contribution, Connexional and other grants, Circuit Model Trust Fund levies and Connexional Priority Fund distributions. The District does not engage in public fundraising and does not use professional fundraisers or commercial participators,

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number
1134167

Principal address
36 Amesbury Road
Moseley
Birmingham
West Midlands
B13 8LE

Trustees

Rev N Headey	Chair of District	
Rev P Warrey	Deputy Chair	- appointed 1 September 2023
Rev S Willey	Deputy Chair	
Ms S Smith	District Council Secretary and Methodist Council Representative	
Ms H Woodall	Synod Secretary	
Rev N Bishop	Treasurer	- appointed 25 January 2024
Ms G Weller	Lay Stationing Representative	
Mr C Osborn	Property Secretary	
Rev D Koffie-Williams	EDI Officer	
Deacon A Allport	Representative	- resigned 31 August 2024
Rev I Ballard	Representative	
Ms S Clutterbuck	Representative	- resigned 6 March 2024
Rev S Levett	Representative	
Rev C Sibanda	Representative	- appointed 1 September 2023
Deacon M Slowe	Representative	
Rev J Thornton	Representative	
Ms J Tolley	Representative	
Mr H Watton	Representative	
J Morriss	Representative	- appointed 1 September 2024
A Chui	Representative	- appointed 6 January 2025

Auditors

J W Hinks LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
19 Highfield Road
Edgbaston
Birmingham
B15 3BH

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Bankers

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Oldham Street
Manchester
M1 1JQ

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

Co-operative Bank
PO Box 250
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

EVENTS SINCE THE END OF THE YEAR

Information relating to events since the end of the year is given in the notes to the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed 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 the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

JW Hinks LLP were appointed as auditors on 20 October 2023. A resolution to re-appoint JW Hinks LLP as auditors will be proposed at the District Council meeting to be held on 25 March 2025.

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 25 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:


Rev N Headley - Trustee

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF
BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Birmingham District of the Methodist Church (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement 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 (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 31 August 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, 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 Auditors' 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 Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF
BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; 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 Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which 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.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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 a Report of the Independent Auditors 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:

- enquiring with management and others to gain an understanding of the organisation itself including operations, financial reporting and known fraud or error;
- evaluating and understanding the internal control system;
- performing analytical procedures as expected or unexpected variances in account balances or classes of transactions appear;
- testing documentation supporting account balances or classes of transactions; and
- confirming accounts receivable and other accounts with a third party.

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. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF
BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

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 auditors' 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.



J W Hinks LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Auditors
19 Highfield Road
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Birmingham
B15 3BH

25 March 2025

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
	Notes				
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	631,878	549,792	1,181,670	2,199,481
Investment income	4	<u>11,557</u>	<u>89,422</u>	<u>100,979</u>	<u>58,410</u>
Total		<u>643,435</u>	<u>639,214</u>	<u>1,282,649</u>	<u>2,257,891</u>
 EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5				
Grants and donations		2,940	206,207	209,147	285,339
Contributions to Methodist Church Fund		554,750	-	554,750	508,945
Support and governance costs		<u>114,383</u>	<u>251,380</u>	<u>365,763</u>	<u>331,474</u>
Total		<u>672,073</u>	<u>457,587</u>	<u>1,129,660</u>	<u>1,125,758</u>
 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)					
Transfers between funds	15	(28,638) <u>1,257,660</u>	181,627 <u>(1,257,660)</u>	152,989 <u>-</u>	1,132,133 <u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		1,229,022	(1,076,033)	152,989	1,132,133
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>3,815,110</u>	<u>2,132,452</u>	<u>5,947,562</u>	<u>4,815,429</u>
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>5,044,132</u>	<u>1,056,419</u>	<u>6,100,551</u>	<u>5,947,562</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**BALANCE SHEET
31 AUGUST 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	11	4,202,922	4,202,922
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	12	13,861	14,007
Cash at bank		<u>1,900,746</u>	<u>1,739,384</u>
		1,914,607	1,753,391
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(16,978)	(8,751)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>1,897,629</u>	<u>1,744,640</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>6,100,551</u>	<u>5,947,562</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>6,100,551</u>	<u>5,947,562</u>

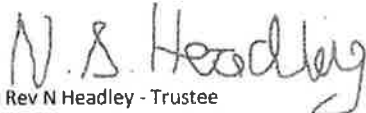
The notes form part of these financial statements

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**BALANCE SHEET - continued
31 AUGUST 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FUNDS	15		
Unrestricted funds:			
General Fund		65,445	49,840
Capital Revaluation Reserve Fund		3,750,000	3,750,000
Manse Major Repair Fund		20,208	15,270
Exchange Visits Fund		1,595	-
District Inclusive Gathering Fund		408	-
Finance Management Fund		17,716	-
Joint District Fund		3,150	-
Rural Fund		6	-
Training Fund		343	-
District Advance Fund		1,107,676	-
Mission and Youth Fund		56,779	-
Safeguarding Fund		19,657	-
Benevolent Fund		1,149	-
		<u>5,044,132</u>	<u>3,815,110</u>
Restricted funds:			
District Advance Fund		-	943,139
Chaplaincy Fund		-	8,873
Mission and Youth Fund		-	72,279
Safeguarding Fund		-	20,549
Benevolent Fund		-	4,148
Inclusive Gathering Birmingham Fund		16,090	12,562
Street Ecclesial Community Fund		24,257	16,676
City Centre Fund		1,016,072	1,054,226
		<u>1,056,419</u>	<u>2,132,452</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>6,100,551</u>	<u>5,947,562</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 25 March 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:


Rev N Headley - Trustee


Rev N Bishop - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>60,383</u>	<u>1,054,775</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>60,383</u>	<u>1,054,775</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(452,922)
Interest received		<u>100,979</u>	<u>58,410</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>100,979</u>	<u>(394,512)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		161,362	660,263
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>1,739,384</u>	<u>1,079,121</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>1,900,746</u>	<u>1,739,384</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	152,989	1,132,133
Adjustments for:		
Interest received	(100,979)	(58,410)
Decrease in debtors	146	282
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>8,227</u>	<u>(19,230)</u>
Net cash provided by operations	<u>60,383</u>	<u>1,054,775</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.9.23	Cash flow	At 31.8.24
	£	£	£
Net cash	<u>1,739,384</u>	<u>161,362</u>	<u>1,900,746</u>
Cash at bank	<u>1,739,384</u>	<u>161,362</u>	<u>1,900,746</u>
Total	<u>1,739,384</u>	<u>161,362</u>	<u>1,900,746</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

GENERAL INFORMATION AND BASIS OF PREPARING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

General information

Birmingham District of the Methodist Church is an unincorporated charity registered in England and Wales. The District's principal address and place of activity is 36 Amesbury Road, Moseley, Birmingham, B13 8LE.

Accounting convention

The financial statements of the District, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) "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 United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)", Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared using the historic cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets, and are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the District, rounded to the nearest £1.

GOING CONCERN

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the District to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the District has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and that there are no material uncertainties about the District's ability to continue as a going concern. As a result the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

CONSOLIDATION

Birmingham Methodist District oversees the work of ministers and lay workers in churches and circuits within the District but does not have financial control over those circuits or churches. For this reason the financial statements of the churches and circuits within the District are not consolidated into these financial statements.

INCOME

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance Sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis where there is certainty of receipt and the amount can be reliably measured. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained, then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

The value of services donated by volunteers is not quantified.

Investment income is earned through holding assets such as cash on deposit. It includes interest receivable. Interest income is recognised using the effective interest rate method and is recognised as the District's right to receive payment is established.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

EXPENDITURE

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants are recognised annually as and when the performance conditions attaching to the award are met, even when the award is for a recurrent grant over more than one year. All grants awarded for payment in future financial years are conditional on the Resourcing Mission Committee being satisfied, on the basis of progress reports from the grantee, that the project's achievements to date justify the payment of further instalments of the grant. Future commitments from the District Advance Fund are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Support costs are those that assist with the work of the District but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs, governance costs and other administrative costs.

Governance costs are those costs associated with the general running of the charity and its strategic management rather than the costs of its charitable activities and day-to-day management.

ALLOCATION AND APPORTIONMENT OF COSTS

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on the basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. floor areas, per capita or estimated usage.

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Fixed assets are initially recognised at cost or fair valuation.

Freehold property is not depreciated. The trustees consider that this policy is necessary in order for the financial statements to give a true and fair view because current values and changes in current values are of prime importance rather than the calculation of systematic annual depreciation.

TAXATION

The District is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the District becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs). Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents include deposits held at call with banks.

PENSION COSTS AND OTHER POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

DEBTORS AND CREDITORS RECEIVABLE/PAYABLE WITHIN 1 YEAR

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

VAT

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

FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the District. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

In the application of the District's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources.

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

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Circuit contributions	626,196	586,500
Donations	33,715	18,769
Connexional and other grants	61,517	109,877
Circuit Model Trust Fund levies	340,733	104,895
Connexional Priority Fund distribution	70,679	190,937
Other income	48,830	41,812
Exceptional items - City Centre Fund	-	1,146,691
	<u>1,181,670</u>	<u>2,199,481</u>

Exceptional items - donations (City Centre Fund)

Exceptional items totalling £1,146,691 for the year ended 31 August 2023 consisted of assets transferred to the Birmingham District of the Methodist Church on 1 September 2022 from the Birmingham Methodist Circuit. Synod initially delegated responsibility for the management of this fund to Birmingham Methodist Circuit but the responsibility reverted to the District in September 2022 following a change in Birmingham Methodist Circuit's constitution. This fund is ring-fenced for activities within Birmingham city centre and decisions regarding grants from the City Centre Fund are made by the District Resourcing Mission Committee. The assets transferred were cash at bank (£693,769) and 47 Grove Avenue (£452,922).

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES - continued

No such exceptional items have been recognised by the Birmingham District of the Methodist Church during the year ended 31 August 2024.

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Connexional and other grants	<u>61,517</u>	<u>109,877</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>100,979</u>	<u>58,410</u>

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Grant funding of activities (see note 6) £	Support costs (see note 7) £	Totals £
Grants and donations	209,147	-	209,147
Contributions to Methodist Church Fund	554,750	-	554,750
Support and governance costs	-	365,763	365,763
	<u>763,897</u>	<u>365,763</u>	<u>1,129,660</u>

6. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2024	2023
	£	£
Grants and donations	209,147	285,339
Contributions to Methodist Church Fund	554,750	508,945
	<u>763,897</u>	<u>794,284</u>

The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Methodist Church Fund	554,750	508,945
Mission projects	209,147	233,092
Other grants and donations	-	52,247
	<u>763,897</u>	<u>794,284</u>

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

6. GRANTS PAYABLE - continued

Other grants and donations - Adavu CIO

Included within other grants and donations totalling £52,247 for the year ended 31 August 2023 (2022: £2,093) was a donation of £52,007 (2022: £nil) made to Adavu CIO. The District's Adavu Fund ceased to be a district project on 1 September 2022 at which date the remaining funds were transferred to a new independent charity, Adavu CIO. During the year ended 31 August 2023 Adavu continued to support survivors of modern slavery.

No such grants and donations have been recognised by the Birmingham District of the Methodist Church during the year ended 31 August 2024.

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Support and governance costs	<u>359,463</u>	<u>6,300</u>	<u>365,763</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

MANAGEMENT

	2024 Support and governance costs £	2023 Total activities £
Wages	200,591	193,872
Social security	16,060	15,473
Pensions	16,050	20,833
Employees expenses	7,807	17,228
Training	14,205	11,811
District office costs	1,018	4,479
Manse costs	13,452	11,733
Trustees' expenses	3,005	997
Administrative costs	59,347	32,375
Subscriptions	2,070	2,122
Professional fees	14,049	1,198
Other expenses	<u>11,809</u>	<u>13,353</u>
	<u>359,463</u>	<u>325,474</u>

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**7. SUPPORT COSTS - continued
GOVERNANCE COSTS**

	2024 Support and governance costs £	2023 Total activities £
Auditors' remuneration	<u>6,300</u>	<u>6,000</u>

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

With the exception of the District chair, there was 1 trustee who received remuneration totalling £6,703 during the year ended 31 August 2024.

During the year ended 31 August 2023, with the exception of the District chair, no trustees received any remuneration or other benefits.

TRUSTEES' EXPENSES

There were trustees' expenses of £3,005 paid during the year ended 31 August 2024 (2023: £997).

9. STAFF COSTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	200,591	193,872
Social security costs	16,060	15,473
Other pension costs	<u>16,050</u>	<u>20,833</u>
	<u>232,701</u>	<u>230,178</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Average	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

Key management personnel

Key management personnel consists of the District Chair, whose salary is paid from Central Methodist Funds. Key management personnel remuneration for the year totalled £48,267 (2023: £45,826).

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

10. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The District contributes to the individual pension plans of certain employees. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the District in independently administered funds.

The total contributions for the year amounted to £16,050 (2023: £20,833) and outstanding contributions as at 31 August 2024 amounted to £nil (2023: £nil).

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £
COST	
At 1 September 2023 and 31 August 2024	<u>4,202,922</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 August 2024	<u>4,202,922</u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>4,202,922</u>

Tangible fixed assets were valued by the trustees on the basis of their open market value. The resulting surplus has been carried to a capital reserve which is not available for distribution.

The freehold properties comprise Amesbury Road, valued at £750,000, Wesley International House, valued at £3,000,000 and Grove Avenue valued at £452,922. In the opinion of the trustees the current open market valuation of the properties is not materially different from the amounts at which they are included in the accounts.

Whilst Wesley International House is owned by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes on trust for Birmingham Methodist District, the property is managed by Birmingham International Student Homes, a separate charity (registered charity number 1095730). Birmingham Methodist District authorises Birmingham International Student Homes to be responsible for all aspects of the upkeep and maintenance of Wesley International House except final ownership.

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>13,861</u>	<u>14,007</u>

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	<u>16,978</u>	<u>8,751</u>

Deferred income included above consists of the following.

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deferred income as at 1 September 2023	-	20,000
Resources deferred during the year	-	-
Amounts released from previous years	-	(20,000)
Deferred income as at 31 August 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Disclosure regarding future grant commitments and other contingent liabilities can be found in note 15 of the financial statements.

14. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Fixed assets	3,750,000	452,922	4,202,922	4,202,922
Current assets	1,306,618	607,989	1,914,607	1,753,391
Current liabilities	<u>(12,486)</u>	<u>(4,492)</u>	<u>(16,978)</u>	<u>(8,751)</u>
	<u>5,044,132</u>	<u>1,056,419</u>	<u>6,100,551</u>	<u>5,947,562</u>

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.9.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.8.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	49,840	26,605	(11,000)	65,445
Capital Revaluation Reserve Fund	3,750,000	-	-	3,750,000
Manse Major Repair Fund	15,270	938	4,000	20,208
Exchange Visits Fund	-	(2,505)	4,100	1,595
District Inclusive Gathering Fund	-	(3,091)	3,499	408
Finance Management Fund	-	(31,284)	49,000	17,716
Joint District Fund	-	(1,350)	4,500	3,150
Rural Fund	-	(3,294)	3,300	6
Training Fund	-	(14,657)	15,000	343
District Advance Fund	-	-	1,107,676	1,107,676
Mission and Youth Fund	-	-	56,779	56,779
Safeguarding Fund	-	-	19,657	19,657
Benevolent Fund	-	-	1,149	1,149
	<u>3,815,110</u>	<u>(28,638)</u>	<u>1,257,660</u>	<u>5,044,132</u>
Restricted funds				
District Advance Fund	943,139	335,818	(1,278,957)	-
Chaplaincy Fund	8,873	-	(8,873)	-
Mission and Youth Fund	72,279	(58,000)	(14,279)	-
Safeguarding Fund	20,549	(31,642)	11,093	-
Benevolent Fund	4,148	(2,999)	(1,149)	-
Inclusive Gathering Birmingham Fund	12,562	(36,472)	40,000	16,090
Street Ecclesial Community Fund	16,676	(21,598)	29,179	24,257
City Centre Fund	<u>1,054,226</u>	<u>(3,480)</u>	<u>(34,674)</u>	<u>1,016,072</u>
	<u>2,132,452</u>	<u>181,627</u>	<u>(1,257,660)</u>	<u>1,056,419</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>5,947,562</u>	<u>152,989</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,100,551</u>

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	640,325	(613,720)	26,605
Manse Major Repair Fund	938	-	938
Exchange Visits Fund	-	(2,505)	(2,505)
District Inclusive Gathering Fund	-	(3,091)	(3,091)
Finance Management Fund	-	(31,284)	(31,284)
Joint District Fund	-	(1,350)	(1,350)
Rural Fund	-	(3,294)	(3,294)
Training Fund	2,172	(16,829)	(14,657)
	643,435	(672,073)	(28,638)
Restricted funds			
District Advance Fund	508,093	(172,275)	335,818
Mission and Youth Fund	12,443	(70,443)	(58,000)
Safeguarding Fund	29,970	(61,612)	(31,642)
Benevolent Fund	-	(2,999)	(2,999)
Inclusive Gathering Birmingham Fund	29,836	(66,308)	(36,472)
Street Ecclesial Community Fund	28,299	(49,897)	(21,598)
City Centre Fund	30,573	(34,053)	(3,480)
	639,214	(457,587)	181,627
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,282,649</u>	<u>(1,129,660)</u>	<u>152,989</u>

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.9.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.8.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	43,146	13,694	(7,000)	49,840
Capital Revaluation Reserve Fund	3,750,000	-	-	3,750,000
Manse Major Repair Fund	15,764	(4,494)	4,000	15,270
	<u>3,808,910</u>	<u>9,200</u>	<u>(3,000)</u>	<u>3,815,110</u>
Restricted funds				
District Advance Fund	828,913	246,836	(132,610)	943,139
Chaplaincy Fund	31,575	(50,952)	28,250	8,873
Mission and Youth Fund	61,649	(24,370)	35,000	72,279
Safeguarding Fund	17,452	(25,903)	29,000	20,549
Adavu Fund	52,007	(52,007)	-	-
Benevolent Fund	4,185	(3,037)	3,000	4,148
Inclusive Gathering Birmingham Fund	5,998	(23,436)	30,000	12,562
Street Ecclesial Community Fund	4,740	(25,924)	37,860	16,676
City Centre Fund	-	1,081,726	(27,500)	1,054,226
	<u>1,006,519</u>	<u>1,122,933</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>2,132,452</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>4,815,429</u>	<u>1,132,133</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,947,562</u>

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	594,942	(581,248)	13,694
Manse Major Repair Fund	<u>644</u>	<u>(5,138)</u>	<u>(4,494)</u>
	595,586	(586,386)	9,200
Restricted funds			
District Advance Fund	394,877	(148,041)	246,836
Chaplaincy Fund	-	(50,952)	(50,952)
Mission and Youth Fund	28,665	(53,035)	(24,370)
Safeguarding Fund	26,486	(52,389)	(25,903)
Adavu Fund	-	(52,007)	(52,007)
Benevolent Fund	-	(3,037)	(3,037)
Inclusive Gathering Birmingham Fund	24,602	(48,038)	(23,436)
Street Ecclesial Community Fund	20,800	(46,724)	(25,924)
City Centre Fund	<u>1,166,875</u>	<u>(85,149)</u>	<u>1,081,726</u>
	<u>1,662,305</u>	<u>(539,372)</u>	<u>1,122,933</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>2,257,891</u></u>	<u><u>(1,125,758)</u></u>	<u><u>1,132,133</u></u>

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.9.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.8.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	43,146	40,299	(18,000)	65,445
Capital Revaluation Reserve Fund	3,750,000	-	-	3,750,000
Manse Major Repair Fund	15,764	(3,556)	8,000	20,208
Exchange Visits Fund	-	(2,505)	4,100	1,595
District Inclusive Gathering Fund	-	(3,091)	3,499	408
Finance Management Fund	-	(31,284)	49,000	17,716
Joint District Fund	-	(1,350)	4,500	3,150
Rural Fund	-	(3,294)	3,300	6
Training Fund	-	(14,657)	15,000	343
District Advance Fund	-	-	1,107,676	1,107,676
Mission and Youth Fund	-	-	56,779	56,779
Safeguarding Fund	-	-	19,657	19,657
Benevolent Fund	-	-	1,149	1,149
	<u>3,808,910</u>	<u>(19,438)</u>	<u>1,254,660</u>	<u>5,044,132</u>
Restricted funds				
District Advance Fund	828,913	582,654	(1,411,567)	-
Chaplaincy Fund	31,575	(50,952)	19,377	-
Mission and Youth Fund	61,649	(82,370)	20,721	-
Safeguarding Fund	17,452	(57,545)	40,093	-
Adavu Fund	52,007	(52,007)	-	-
Benevolent Fund	4,185	(6,036)	1,851	-
Inclusive Gathering Birmingham Fund	5,998	(59,908)	70,000	16,090
Street Ecclesial Community Fund	4,740	(47,522)	67,039	24,257
City Centre Fund	-	1,078,246	(62,174)	1,016,072
	<u>1,006,519</u>	<u>1,304,560</u>	<u>(1,254,660)</u>	<u>1,056,419</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>4,815,429</u>	<u>1,285,122</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,100,551</u>

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	1,235,267	(1,194,968)	40,299
Manse Major Repair Fund	1,582	(5,138)	(3,556)
Exchange Visits Fund	-	(2,505)	(2,505)
District Inclusive Gathering Fund	-	(3,091)	(3,091)
Finance Management Fund	-	(31,284)	(31,284)
Joint District Fund	-	(1,350)	(1,350)
Rural Fund	-	(3,294)	(3,294)
Training Fund	2,172	(16,829)	(14,657)
	1,239,021	(1,258,459)	(19,438)
Restricted funds			
District Advance Fund	902,970	(320,316)	582,654
Chaplaincy Fund	-	(50,952)	(50,952)
Mission and Youth Fund	41,108	(123,478)	(82,370)
Safeguarding Fund	56,456	(114,001)	(57,545)
Adavu Fund	-	(52,007)	(52,007)
Benevolent Fund	-	(6,036)	(6,036)
Inclusive Gathering Birmingham Fund	54,438	(114,346)	(59,908)
Street Ecclesial Community Fund	49,099	(96,621)	(47,522)
City Centre Fund	1,197,448	(119,202)	1,078,246
	2,301,519	(996,959)	1,304,560
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>3,540,540</u>	<u>(2,255,418)</u>	<u>1,285,122</u>

Purpose of Unrestricted Funds

General Fund

This fund represents funds for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the District for day-to-day running costs.

Designated Funds

District Advance Fund

This fund provides grants to churches and circuits within the District. These grants, along with amounts transferred from DAF into other district funds for work at district level, are authorised by the District Resourcing Mission Committee.

Capital Revaluation Fund

This fund represents the balance sheet value of tangible fixed assets held by the District's General Fund, namely Wesley International House and 36 Amesbury Road

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Manse Major Repair Fund

Amounts are transferred annually from the General Fund towards future major repairs on the district manse.

Exchange Visits Fund

This fund enabled the District Chair to lead a group from the Birmingham District of the Methodist Church to visit our exchange partners in Kadoma, Zimbabwe in October 2023.

This fund was fully expended as at 31 August 2024.

District Inclusive Gathering Fund

This fund supports the work of District IGB, a LGBTQIA+ affirming, justice-seeking church for all.

Finance Management Fund

This fund supports the financial management of the District.

Joint District Fund

This fund supports costs incurred concerning the merger due to take effect between the Birmingham District of the Methodist Church and the Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury District of the Methodist Church.

Rural Fund

This fund is a project whose aim is to support mission in rural communities.

Training Fund

This fund supports training costs incurred by the District.

Mission and Youth Fund

This fund supports the work of the mission adviser and the youth engagement officer.

Safeguarding Fund

This fund supports the work of two safeguarding officers whose combined costs are shared with Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District.

Benevolent Fund

This fund is for use at the Chair's discretion to reimburse costs incurred in cases of hardship and need.

Restricted Funds

Chaplaincy Fund

This fund supports chaplaincy at the NEC together with the co-ordination of chaplains working within the District.

This fund was fully expended as at 31 August 2024.

Inclusive Gathering Birmingham Fund

This fund supports the work of IGB, a LGBTQIA+ affirming, justice-seeking church for all.

Street Ecclesial Community Fund

This fund is for the work of Street Banquet, engaging the homelessness sector, providing outreach and chaplaincy.

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

City Centre Fund

This fund supports God's work in Birmingham City Centre, including grants to Inclusive Gathering Birmingham and Street Ecclesial Community. The fund, managed by Birmingham Methodist Circuit until 1 September 2022 and transferred to the District on that date, represents the remaining proceeds from the sale of the head lease of Birmingham City Mission in 2014-15, plus 47 Grove Avenue, the manse occupied by Rev Neil Johnson, the pastor of Street Ecclesial Community.

TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

Transfers between funds as at 31 August 2023 and 31 August 2024 represent movements between the District's General Fund and the District's designated funds and movements between restricted funds.

As at 31 August 2024 the decision was taken to transfer the District Advance Fund from restricted funds and into unrestricted designated funds in accordance with the prescribed format of The Methodist Church. Similar fund transfers have also taken place for The Mission and Youth Fund, The Safeguarding Fund and The Benevolent Fund.

16. FUTURE GRANT COMMITMENTS AND OTHER CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

District Advance Fund

Future grant commitments from the District Advance Fund are shown below.

As at 31 August 2024 future grant commitments from the District Advance Fund were as follows:

Year to	£
31 August 2025	527,538
31 August 2026	166,026
31 August 2027	54,743
31 August 2028	53,952
	<u>802,259</u>

City Centre Fund

Future grant commitments from the City Centre Fund are shown below.

As at 31 August 2024 future grant commitments from the City Centre Fund were as follows:

Year to	£
31 August 2025	42,737
31 August 2026	44,504
31 August 2027	35,123
31 August 2028	7,500
	<u>129,864</u>

All such future payments are conditional upon the Resourcing Mission Committee being satisfied, on the basis of progress reports from the grantee, that the project's achievements to date justify the payment of further instalments of the grant.

**BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

16. FUTURE GRANT COMMITMENTS AND OTHER CONTINGENT LIABILITIES - continued

Other

Estimated employer debt on withdrawal of former employee pensions under the Growth Plan 3 scheme is £2,191 at the latest valuation date, being 30 September 2023.

17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Transactions with other Methodist entities and associated charities are disclosed in the Report of the Trustees.

18. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

**Merger between the Birmingham District of the Methodist Church
and the Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury District of the Methodist Church**

The proposed merger between the Birmingham District of the Methodist Church and the Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury District of the Methodist Church was approved by the two District Synods in April 2024.

It was recommended and approved at the Methodist Conference in June 2024 that the two Districts will become one combined West Midlands District with effect from September 2025.

Work will proceed before the merger becomes effective in September 2025 to ensure that all aspects of each District's work will come together, and that the merger takes place smoothly by the end of August 2025.

The Birmingham District's mission and ministries work will continue alongside these preparations.