

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024
for
BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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BRISTOL 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

Significant activities

1. The advancement of the Christian Faith with the doctrinal standards and discipline of the Methodist Church.

The District continues to support a range of activities under this heading including:

- public worship, teaching, mutual help and support;
- working with and in the community especially to support the vulnerable; and
- supporting diversity in all its forms and providing support for the community.

2. The advancement of any Charitable Purpose in the District, Circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church in the Bristol District.

Specific activities supported under this heading include:

- providing help and assistance to Children and Young people's work within the churches of the District;
- supporting ecumenical work in the among the churches of the District;
- supporting ecumenical work in the universities of the District; and
- assisting and training for those working within the Methodist churches of the District.

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

Grant making

In the case of the grant making functions of the District through its restricted and endowment funds, it is the policy of the District only to make grants against funds actually available in those funds at the time of the grant (even if the grant is spread over a number of years) - no future income to the fund is assumed when a grant is made.

Volunteers

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit, Church) within the Methodist Church in Great Britain is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. Principally this contribution is by serving on committees of the District that deal with mission, manses, finance, policy, grants, training, development. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The District endeavours to maximise the District's potential as a facilitator and resource for mission in support of the Circuits and Areas that comprise the District, and to identify what needs to be done by the District and what can be done and is best done at different levels within the District.

Work has continued in the fields of Safeguarding, Grants and Project approvals along with a wide range of other necessary and requested work across the District being undertaken and delivered to fulfil Methodist Church Standing Orders and to resource circuits and churches in the District.

The District continues working with the Trustees of John Wesley's Room (the New Room) in Bristol.

The management structures for the District, which have been in operation since September 2018, are functioning well and are being reviewed as a matter of good practice.

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Report of the Trustees

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

The principal recurring source of income continues to be the mandatory payments by Methodist circuits in the District.

The income to the District Advance Fund is derived from levies on Circuit Advance Funds which in turn rely on property sales and disposals for their replenishment. This has enabled continuation of the number and level of new grants from the District Advance Fund.

Ongoing Expenditure

The District is continuing to develop its relationships with regional training staff employed by the Methodist Church and covering the South West. This provides a resource to the region equivalent to 1 1/3 persons per year. The employment of the Safeguarding Officer will continue as there has been much increased demand placed upon this role. The District support for a part time education officer based at the New Room is through grant funding. The District continue to see increasing enthusiasm and cohesion in the youth work around the District and are considering how best to support this work.

Reserves policy

The reserves available for use by the District are deemed to be those funds that are readily realisable less those funds which are restricted or designated for other purposes. The District has an established reserves policy which provides six month's reserves against normal expenditure. This policy is deemed by the District Policy Committee to be sufficient to allow for an orderly cessation or reorganisation of continuing activities in the event of unforeseen financial difficulties, for example, default on payments to the District. The reserves policy does not allow for assessment payments to the Methodist Church, it being considered that the Methodist Church and individual Circuits have reserves policies that are robust against failures in these payments.

At the year end the District held total reserves of £1,717,290 (2023 - £1,357,196) of which £87,160 (2023 - £82,700) was held in restricted funds. The District held £214,368 (2023 - £143,050) in free reserves which equated to more than 12 months' general expenditure (excluding grants payable and levies).

Going concern

The District has confirmed with the Circuit Treasurers their ability to pay their assessments for the financial year 2024/25. The Trustees consider that the charity will continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved.

The Trustees therefore consider it appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of preparation of the accounts, as detailed in note 1 to the financial statements.

FUTURE PLANS

All activities of the District continue to be reviewed to ensure that what is done is relevant to the needs of the present time and are affordable.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The Structure, Governance and Management of the Bristol District is as established by The Deed of Union and the Model Trusts enshrined in The Methodist Church Act 1976 and as set out in detail in the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appointed based on their experience and skills, independence of thought and commitment to the furthering the objectives of the Methodist Church.

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure and wider network

Circuits are groups of churches; circuits pay the stipends of the ministers and employ lay staff to serve the churches in the circuit; most decisions are made at or ratified by the half yearly circuit meeting. A district is a group of contiguous circuits and makes its decisions at the half yearly synods. The Methodist Conference meets once each year and is the supreme governing body in the Church.

1. Overall control rests with the Methodist Conference.
2. The Connexional Office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons in individual circuits within the District.
3. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate officers of the District for implementation.
4. The District passes control down to circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, ministerial staff and circuit stewards, and authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters.
5. The Circuit Meeting passes control down to church councils for local implementation by the presbyter, the church stewards, and other officers, and authority is delegated to church councils as Managing Trustees.

Induction and training of new trustees

The Methodist Church runs a number of seminars relating to the induction and training of trustees and trustees of the District are expected to attend. Most appointees are trustees of other organisations and will also have experience and training with the other organisation.

Risk management

Major risks are reviewed regularly by the District's Policy Committee which establishes systems and procedures to manage those risks. In terms of governance, the District Policy Committee and District Scrutiny Group are functioning well.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1134873

Principal address

Victoria Methodist Church
1a Whiteladies Road
Bristol
BS8 1NU

Trustees

Rev Dr J Pye - Chair of District (resigned 31.8.24)

Rev M Torchon (appointed 1.9.24)

Mrs A Jackson - Treasurer

Mr J Flowers

Rev P Stonehewer

Rev L Maydew

Mrs H Bevan - Synod Secretary

Mr P Newton

Rev T Swire

Rev S Edwards

Rev S Toppin (appointed 1.9.23)

Mr M Collins (appointed 1.9.23)

Rev D Gray (appointed 1.9.23)

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent Examiner

Matthew Bracher BSc FCA

Gravita

Chartered Accountants

Bath House

6 - 8 Bath Street

Bristol

BS1 6HL

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 22 June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs A Jackson - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Bristol District of the Methodist Church

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bristol District of the Methodist Church

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Bristol District of the Methodist Church (the Trust) for the year ended 31 August 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Matthew Bracher BSc FCA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Gravita
Chartered Accountants
Bath House
6 - 8 Bath Street
Bristol
BS1 6HL

22 June 2025

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Statement of Financial Activities FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

					2024	2023
	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	District Advance Fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM						
Donations and legacies	2	-	-	3,399	3,399	390
Charitable activities	4					
Management of the Bristol District		142,388	-	-	142,388	127,132
Grant funding		50,793	398,616	-	449,409	258,633
Investment income	3	8,939	56,001	4,239	69,179	32,474
Total		202,120	454,617	7,638	664,375	418,629
EXPENDITURE ON Charitable activities	5					
Management of the Bristol District		138,207	2,165	-	140,372	134,868
Grant funding		4,146	156,585	3,178	163,909	119,766
Total		142,353	158,750	3,178	304,281	254,634
NET INCOME		59,767	295,867	4,460	360,094	163,995
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		651,293	623,203	82,700	1,357,196	1,193,201
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		711,060	919,070	87,160	1,717,290	1,357,196

The notes form part of these financial statements

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Balance Sheet 31 AUGUST 2024

					2024	2023
	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	District Advance Fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	13	496,692	-	-	496,692	508,243
CURRENT ASSETS						
Cash at bank	14	219,912	1,090,480	87,160	1,397,552	990,178
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(5,544)	(91,304)	-	(96,848)	(78,465)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		214,368	999,176	87,160	1,300,704	911,713
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		711,060	999,176	87,160	1,797,396	1,419,956
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due after more than one year	16	-	(80,106)	-	(80,106)	(62,760)
NET ASSETS		711,060	919,070	87,160	1,717,290	1,357,196
FUNDS	17					
Unrestricted funds					1,630,130	1,274,496
Restricted funds					87,160	82,700
TOTAL FUNDS					1,717,290	1,357,196

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 22 June 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mrs A Jackson - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

BRISTOL 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	338,195	99,200
Net cash provided by operating activities		338,195	99,200
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		69,179	32,474
Net cash provided by investing activities		69,179	32,474
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		407,374	131,674
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		990,178	858,504
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		1,397,552	990,178

The notes form part of these financial statements

BRISTOL 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)	360,094	163,995
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	11,551	11,551
Interest received	(69,179)	(32,474)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	35,729	(43,872)
Net cash provided by operations	<u>338,195</u>	<u>99,200</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.9.23 £	Cash flow £	At 31.8.24 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	990,178	407,374	1,397,552
	<u>990,178</u>	<u>407,374</u>	<u>1,397,552</u>
Total	<u>990,178</u>	<u>407,374</u>	<u>1,397,552</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, 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 UK 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 under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees consider that the charity has sufficient cash reserves to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved.

Income

Income is brought into account when it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will accrue to the Bristol District. No attempt is made to measure the value of services donated by volunteers. Details of how the contribution to the cost of the District Chair has been determined appears in note 10.

Individual amounts categorised as Other Income in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The District acts as agent in four matters:

1. the collection of quarterly assessments from circuits which are paid to the Methodist Church Fund
2. the payment of expenses of delegates from the District to the Methodist Conference
3. the collection taken at the spring synod on behalf of the Methodist Minsters' Children's Relief Fund
4. the cost of ministerial health checks recovered from circuits

In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because there is no obligation on the District to make up any shortfall in assessments from circuits. Sums received as circuit assessments cannot be recognised as income in the District as they are the income of the Methodist Church Fund.

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 receivable and payable are recognised in the period to which they relate. Grants are recognised in full when the award is made once the District accepts that there is a legal or constructive obligation to make the payment and that such payment is probable.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Governance costs

Governance costs comprise all costs involved in the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Tangible fixed assets valuation

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Freehold property	- 2% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. The freehold property is shown at cost. Provision has been made for depreciation where appropriate.

VAT

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

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Debtors

Debtors are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any amounts advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

Cash and short term investments

Cash at bank is held to meet short-term cash commitments as they fall due rather than for investment purposes and includes all cash equivalents held in the form of short-term highly liquid investments including cash on deposit with TMCP and CFB. Cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and that are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts.

Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the District without further specified purpose. They are available as general funds and can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Expenditure which meets the criteria is charged to the fund together with a fair allocation of support costs where appropriate.

Endowment funds represent restricted gifts, the capital normally being unavailable for spending.

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

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

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.

Donated goods and services

The value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into the financial statements.

Where goods or service are provided to the charity as a donation that would normally be purchased from suppliers, the contributions are included in the financial statements as an estimate based on the value of the contribution.

Ministers' manse costs

The District is required to provide accommodation for the Chair and his / her family. The District bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, building insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These costs are not shown separately as benefits-in-kind for Ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of the Ministers.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	649	390
Grants	2,750	-
	<u>3,399</u>	<u>390</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Interest and investment income	<u>69,179</u>	<u>32,474</u>

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		2024 £	2023 £
Assessment or Share	Management of the Bristol District	93,317	72,252
Contribution to Chair's stipend related costs	Management of the Bristol District	49,071	47,866
Other income	Management of the Bristol District	-	7,014
Contributions from CAF	Grant funding	275,300	175,761
CPF distribution	Grant funding	112,379	71,935
Pension Reserve Fund contribution refund	Grant funding	22,793	-
Connexion - Methodist Action on Poverty and Justice	Grant funding	10,937	10,937
Connexion - New Places for New People funding	Grant funding	28,000	-
		<u>591,797</u>	<u>385,765</u>

Assessment income is shown net of the payment to the Methodist Church Fund of £597,091 (2023 - £584,300) in accordance with national guidance.

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 6) £	Grant funding of activities (see note 7) £	Support costs (see note 8) £	Totals £
Management of the Bristol District	134,948	-	5,424	140,372
Grant funding	-	163,909	-	163,909
	<u>134,948</u>	<u>163,909</u>	<u>5,424</u>	<u>304,281</u>

Payment of assessment collected and passed on to the Methodist Church Fund of £597,091 (2023 - £584,300) has been netted off against the respective income in accordance with Methodist finance guidance.

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

6. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs	45,615	40,854
Administration	7,491	14,639
Chair's costs	8,475	4,351
Manse costs	6,736	5,790
Ministry	310	1,288
Synod, committee and conference	5,699	11,316
Chair's stipend related costs	49,071	47,866
Depreciation	11,551	11,551
	<u>134,948</u>	<u>137,655</u>

7. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2024	2023
	£	£
Grant funding	<u>163,909</u>	<u>113,559</u>

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
District Advance Fund grants	146,104	96,716
District Advance Fund - Warm Space grants	10,481	13,900
Churches Together	4,146	1,740
Other grants	-	603
	<u>160,731</u>	<u>112,959</u>

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other grants	<u>3,178</u>	<u>600</u>

The Bristol District (through the DAF grants) supports 9 circuits within the Bristol area. The circuits carry out a number of projects and money is provided from the District to support these projects.

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

8. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs £
Management of the Bristol District	<u><u>5,424</u></u>

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

	2024 Management of the Bristol District £	2023 Total activities £
Independent examiner's remuneration	<u><u>5,424</u></u>	<u><u>3,420</u></u>

9. EXAMINER'S REMUNERATION

Amounts payable to the Independent Examiner comprise £1,415 (2023 - £1,350) for the independent examination and £4,129 (2023 - £2,070) for the preparation of the accounts.

10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2024 nor for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Trustees' expenses

The Chair of District chairs meetings of the District Policy Committee (DPC). The members of the DPC are the trustees of the District. The stipend, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions of the Chair of District are paid by the Methodist Connexion. The Chair's other costs are met mostly by the District.

	£ 2024	£ 2023
Stipend of Chair of District	31,020	29,040
Employers' NI	4,092	3,754
Employers' pension	6,204	7,812
Chair's allowance	<u>7,755</u>	<u>7,260</u>
Costs incurred by Connexion	49,071	47,866
Manse costs	6,736	5,790
Chair's expenses	<u>8,475</u>	<u>4,351</u>
	<u><u>15,211</u></u>	<u><u>10,141</u></u>

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS - continued

Trustees' expenses - continued

The stipend-related costs above totalling £49,071 (2023 - £47,866) are borne by the Connexion and they therefore appear both in the Income of the District and the Expenditure of the District (see note 11). It should be noted that the Chair is required to occupy the District manse. The manse is provided by Bristol District and the District maintains the property. The Chair of District is the sole paid key management person but is supported by members of the DPC.

Payments to trustees

It is District policy to offer to reimburse members of the District Policy Committee and others involved in the administration of District affairs for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties. The Chair of the District undertakes the primary executive role within the District. Apart from the Chair of District no member of the District Policy Committee was in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the District, although certain travelling and administration costs were reimbursed whenever this was requested.

During the year travel expenses have been reimbursed to other trustees who, in aggregate, have received the cost of travel incurred in attending meetings and this amounted to £912 (2023 - £772).

11. STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	41,933	36,682
Social security costs	2,187	2,123
Other pension costs	1,495	2,049
	<u>45,615</u>	<u>40,854</u>

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

	2024	2023
Safeguarding and administration	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>

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

In addition to the costs above, stipend-related costs of the Chair of £49,071 (2023 - £47,866) are borne by the Connexion. These costs appear both in the income of the District and the expenditure of the District.

In the prior year, employment-related costs of £6,807 for the District Administrator, who was employed by Wesley Methodist Church, are included in administration in note 6. The District Administrator is now employed by the District.

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

12. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	District Advance Fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies	130	-	260	390
Charitable activities				
Management of the Bristol District	127,132	-	-	127,132
Grant funding	-	258,633	-	258,633
Investment income	5,255	24,600	2,619	32,474
Total	<u>132,517</u>	<u>283,233</u>	<u>2,879</u>	<u>418,629</u>
EXPENDITURE ON				
Charitable activities				
Management of the Bristol District	132,878	1,809	181	134,868
Grant funding	8,750	111,016	-	119,766
Total	<u>141,628</u>	<u>112,825</u>	<u>181</u>	<u>254,634</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(9,111)	170,408	2,698	163,995
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward	660,404	452,795	80,002	1,193,201
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>651,293</u>	<u>623,203</u>	<u>82,700</u>	<u>1,357,196</u>

13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 September 2023 and 31 August 2024	<u>577,549</u>	<u>2,604</u>	<u>580,153</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 September 2023	69,306	2,604	71,910
Charge for year	11,551	-	11,551
At 31 August 2024	<u>80,857</u>	<u>2,604</u>	<u>83,461</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 August 2024	<u>496,692</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>496,692</u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>508,243</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>508,243</u>

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

14. CASH AT BANK

	General Fund £	District Advance Fund £	Bursary Fund (Lay Training) £
Current accounts	39,179	-	-
TMCP and CFB	180,733	1,090,480	13,857
Total	<u>219,912</u>	<u>1,090,480</u>	<u>13,857</u>

	Chairman's Benevolence Fund £	Gloucester City Centre Fund £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Current accounts	-	-	39,179	9,485
TMCP and CFB	18,435	54,868	1,358,373	980,693
Total	<u>18,435</u>	<u>54,868</u>	<u>1,397,552</u>	<u>990,178</u>

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Grants payable	91,304	73,345
Accruals and deferred income	5,544	5,120
	<u>96,848</u>	<u>78,465</u>

16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Grants payable	<u>80,106</u>	<u>62,760</u>

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.9.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.8.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	143,050	71,318	214,368
District Advance Fund	623,203	295,867	919,070
Manse Property Fund	508,243	(11,551)	496,692
	<u>1,274,496</u>	<u>355,634</u>	<u>1,630,130</u>
Restricted funds			
Bursary Fund (Lay Training)	13,182	675	13,857
Chairman's Benevolence Fund	17,321	1,114	18,435
Gloucester City Centre Fund	52,197	2,671	54,868
	<u>82,700</u>	<u>4,460</u>	<u>87,160</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,357,196</u>	<u>360,094</u>	<u>1,717,290</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	202,120	(130,802)	71,318
District Advance Fund	454,617	(158,750)	295,867
Manse Property Fund	-	(11,551)	(11,551)
	<u>656,737</u>	<u>(301,103)</u>	<u>355,634</u>
Restricted funds			
Bursary Fund (Lay Training)	675	-	675
Chairman's Benevolence Fund	4,292	(3,178)	1,114
Gloucester City Centre Fund	2,671	-	2,671
	<u>7,638</u>	<u>(3,178)</u>	<u>4,460</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>664,375</u>	<u>(304,281)</u>	<u>360,094</u>

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.9.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.8.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	140,610	2,440	143,050
District Advance Fund	452,795	170,408	623,203
Manse Property Fund	519,794	(11,551)	508,243
	<u>1,113,199</u>	<u>161,297</u>	<u>1,274,496</u>
Restricted funds			
Bursary Fund (Lay Training)	12,808	374	13,182
Chairman's Benevolence Fund	16,481	840	17,321
Gloucester City Centre Fund	50,713	1,484	52,197
	<u>80,002</u>	<u>2,698</u>	<u>82,700</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,193,201</u>	<u>163,995</u>	<u>1,357,196</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	132,517	(130,077)	2,440
District Advance Fund	283,233	(112,825)	170,408
Manse Property Fund	-	(11,551)	(11,551)
	<u>415,750</u>	<u>(254,453)</u>	<u>161,297</u>
Restricted funds			
Bursary Fund (Lay Training)	411	(37)	374
Chairman's Benevolence Fund	840	-	840
Gloucester City Centre Fund	1,628	(144)	1,484
	<u>2,879</u>	<u>(181)</u>	<u>2,698</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>418,629</u>	<u>(254,634)</u>	<u>163,995</u>

Manse Property Fund (designated)

The fund reflects the net book value of the manse property including fixtures and fittings.

District Advance Fund (designated)

This fund receives income via annual contributions levied on circuit model trust funds and distributions from Connexional advance and property funds. The purpose of these levies and distributions is to release funds for where they are most required. The fund is used to make grants in accordance with the District Mission Policy or to support more specific current initiatives undertaken by the District.

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Bursary Fund (restricted)

The fund provides grants to support lay training.

Chairman's Benevolence Fund (restricted)

This fund represents a hardship fund and is expendable at the sole discretion of the District Chairman.

Gloucester City Centre Fund (restricted)

The fund reflects money received from the sale of property by St John's Methodist Church, Gloucester. Methodist rules require that such funds are held by the District, but the District is only allowed to disburse it in response to a request from the Gloucestershire Circuit for work in Gloucester City Centre.

Comparative analysis of net assets between funds, are as follows:

Fund balances as at 31 August 2023	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Fixed assets	508,243	-	508,243
Current assets	907,478	82,700	990,178
Current liabilities	(78,465)	-	(78,465)
Liabilities due in more than 1 year	(62,760)	-	(62,760)
Total net assets	1,474,496	82,700	1,357,196

18. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The pension contributions of the Chair of District are paid by the Methodist Connexion to the Methodist Minister's Pension Scheme (MMPS).

Lay employees are contractually employees of the District and have the option of joining the Pension and Assurance Scheme for Lay Employees of the Methodist Church (PASLEMC), The Pensions Trust or some other arrangement. PASLEMC is a defined benefit scheme and the employing Churches and Circuits contribute as employers to this scheme.

The District belongs to a multi-employer defined contribution scheme operated by TPT Retirement (formerly The Pensions Trust) which is offered to lay employees. The cost of the pension scheme to the District for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £1,495 (2023- £1,386).

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

19. CONNECTED ORGANISATIONS AND RELATED PARTIES

All of the District trustees are members of one or another Church and Circuit within the District and may be trustees in their Churches and/or Circuits.

Connected organisations include the Methodist Connexion, Circuits and Churches within the District, other Methodist Districts in Great Britain, the Methodist Ministers' Children's Relief Association, CFB and TMCP. All of these entities have their own trustees or directors and autonomous administration such that Bristol District has no significant influence over any of them, nor they over Bristol District. They are, therefore, not considered related parties.

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 August 2024 (2023 - no transactions).

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	649	390
Grants	2,750	-
	3,399	390
Investment income		
Interest and investment income	69,179	32,474
Charitable activities		
Assessment or Share	93,317	72,252
Contributions from CAF	275,300	175,761
CPF distribution	112,379	71,935
Pension Reserve Fund contribution refund	22,793	-
Contribution to Chair's stipend related costs	49,071	47,866
Connexion - Methodist Action on Poverty and Justice	10,937	10,937
Connexion - New Places for New People funding	28,000	-
Other income	-	7,014
	591,797	385,765
Total incoming resources	664,375	418,629
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	41,933	36,682
Social security	2,187	2,123
Pensions	1,495	2,049
Administration	7,491	14,639
Chair's costs	8,475	4,351
Manse costs	6,736	5,790
Ministry	310	1,288
Synod, committee and conference	5,699	11,316
Chair's stipend related costs	49,071	47,866
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	11,551	11,551
Grants to institutions	160,731	112,959
Grants to individuals	3,178	600
	298,857	251,214

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

BRISTOL DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

	2024 £	2023 £
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's remuneration	<u>5,424</u>	<u>3,420</u>
Total resources expended	<u>304,281</u>	<u>254,634</u>
Net income	<u><u>360,094</u></u>	<u><u>163,995</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements