

Lindisfarne College of Theology Ltd

Trustees' Report & Financial Statements

Year ended 31 August 2024

Company no 06905282

Charity no 1136478

LINDISFARNE COLLEGE OF THEOLOGY LTD

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Annual report

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The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their combined trustees' report and directors' report, together with the financial statements, for the year ended 31 August 2024.

Legal Objects

Lindisfarne College of Theology Ltd ("LCT") is the provider of part time non-residential IME1 (Initial Ministerial Education) training for Ordinands and Readers for the Dioceses of Durham and Newcastle. We will deliver this contract to the highest standards, and further develop the detail of our programmes to meet the emerging needs of the Dioceses of Newcastle and Durham students. We also have an increasing number of independent students and continuing students seeking higher level qualifications.

Aims and objectives

Our Mission

Lindisfarne exists to support the Church in the North East by encouraging discipleship in communities of Christian learning.

Our Aim

To advance the Christian religion by the promotion and delivery of education for discipleship, initial ministerial education, and continuing development for ordained and lay members within the region.

The Public Benefit

The trustees are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit and have had regard to it in their administration of the LCT. The trustees believe that, by promoting the work of Christian Churches, it helps to promote the whole mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical) more effectively, both in the region as a whole and in its individual communities and parishes, and that in doing so it provides a benefit to the public by:

- providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers; and
- promoting Christian values, and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

Achievements in the year

LCT has continued to serve the Church in the North East by seeking to deliver high quality training to ordinands, readers and licensed lay ministers in training, and others training for authorised ministries (ALMOWs, LPMs, MEVs) as well as independent students. The training consists of academic and formational elements, centred around teaching the C of E's Common Awards modules at Undergraduate and Postgraduate levels for the academic programme, and a pattern of corporate prayer and worship on a weekly basis for the formational programme. Residential weekends through the year provide opportunity for various cohorts to experience more intense formational time, as well as continuing the academic programme. Ordinands also benefit from a week-long residential Easter School.

Staff changes in 2023-24

- Our new Director of Postgraduate Studies (Dr Caleb Gordon) took up his post in August 2023, replacing our previous temporary post-holder Dr Jeremy Bonner;
- Two other temporary part-time posts came to a conclusion, with the retirement of Alison Blackburn and the ending of our contract with Revd Dr Julia Candy, who returned to focusing on her work as a University Chaplain in Durham University;
- Our second Principal Revd Dr David Bryan retired, and we appointed our third Principal: Revd Dr Richard Briggs, who has considerable prior experience in theological education in the North East. This changeover occurred in August 2024;
- By 1 Sept 2024 the LCT staff consisted of a Principal (1.0 fte), a Director of Undergraduate Studies (1.0), a Director of Postgraduate Studies (0.7), an Academic Administrator (1.0), and a Business and Finance Director (0.6) – a total of 4.3 fte;

This year in particular:

- The college was assessed through the Church of England's 'Periodic External Review' mechanism, delivering a positive report that included areas of full confidence, and areas of 'confidence with qualifications' – as is normal for almost all Theological Education Institutions (TEI) PER reports. The points requiring development were gratefully received as pointers towards specific areas needing attention, but we noted that most of them were small points easily implemented. A refreshing of governance structures and processes is the main matter arising, and was already well attended to in the time period under review;
- In additional review, the C of E 'Common Awards' team offered a positive assessment of our delivery of Common Awards programmes, and an agreement was prepared toward continuing our validation arrangement with them;
- We diversified our programmes by introducing a new centrally-funded stream of 'Authorised Lay Ministers of the Word' in Durham Diocese. In its initial year this recruited four students, with options for them to study on an accredited or non-accredited pathway, and with specific cohort oversight under a designated tutor;
- Our other programmes continued with their own strengths: context-specific training on contextual learning pathways for those in ministerial training, with a focus on making our programme flexible enough to accommodate the needs of students of a wide variety of academic backgrounds and levels of prior educational achievement. Student feedback continues to suggest that this is an area in which LCT does well;
- Our student body has outgrown the residential facilities of the Emmaus Youth Village in Consett, with student numbers increasingly high, combined with the reduction in lecture room facilities at Emmaus. We therefore began to move some of our residential weekends to Ushaw Historic House outside Durham, the venue of the old Roman Catholic Ushaw Seminary;
- Record student recruitment towards the end of the year meant that we began the Sept 2024 programmes with an all-time record high number of students (86 were registered to begin the programmes from Sept 1, though usually a couple of students defer or withdraw);
- We invested in being part of ongoing local conversations about provision of theological and ministerial training in the North East, via conversations with Cranmer Hall. We anticipate further developments in this area in the next year or two;
- We took our ordinand cohort on an Easter School residential trip for a week to Corrymeela in Northern Ireland, for the purposes of studying peace and reconciliation ministry in situ;
- We developed our SpLD (Specific Learning Difficulties) provision, with cutting edge reflection on the nature and needs of such specific needs, and how best to respond to them with the provision of information and material in multiple formats;
- We celebrated our 15th anniversary with a pilgrimage to Lindisfarne Holy Island, inviting students and alumni to join us for the day;

Future plans

- A new Principal will bring inevitable reorganisation of some responsibilities among core staff, and the college is seeking to make a new full-time appointment as Director of Contextual Learning.
- We anticipate a rationalisation of expenditure on a range of issues – residential weekends and Easter schools, external teaching budget, and other costs. Comparison with other TEIs will enable a review of some of our costs and fee arrangements.
- We will move all teaching weekends to Ushaw Historic House for the year.
- In particular, we will review fees for independent students with a view to being closer to sector-wide fees
- We will seek to broaden the conversation of Northern stakeholders in theological education as we consider options for the future.
- Our advertising and publicity needs an overhaul, and we will look to revitalise and refresh this area.
- We will be seeking to recruit further experience to the LCT Board of Trustees, in response to the PER.
- In addition to maintaining our core course offerings, we will seek to develop a suite of 'Access Programmes' offering Foundation Awards for a range of entry-level students.
- We will be seeking new opportunities for external funding for designated projects and (potentially) posts.

Financial review

Overall financial position

Income totalled £303,614 (2023: £305,586) and expenditure amounted to £391,028 (2023: £336,197). The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year shows net shortfall, before investment movements of £87,414 (2023: shortfall £30,611). The net movement in funds resulted in a decrease in total funds from £197,304 to £117,856.

Principal funding sources

In the year to 31 August 2024, 31% of our income came from diocesan course fees and of the remaining 69%, 46% was from Ministry Division Fees and 16% from other course fees.

Review of financial position

The balance sheet has decreased by £79,448 during the year. Trustees are satisfied with the year end result and financial position and have addressed several of the issues which contributed to a year where student numbers were not as high as hoped, and are comfortable that this trend will be reversed in the coming and future years.

Going concern

The trustees have considered the charity's financial sustainability over the next financial year and beyond. As discussed above, the charity retains a level of reserves which would help to mitigate any immediate financial pressures and manage anticipated cashflow needs in the coming year.

The present financial position is further supported by a commitment from the Dioceses to maintain the current relationship on an ongoing basis.

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Reserves policy

LCT currently has reserves totalling £117,856, of which £117,510 are free reserves (unrestricted reserves). The priority has been to build towards a position where it has free reserves equivalent to at least four months' employment costs of its direct employees and also accommodation costs. The value of free reserves required is a minimum of £72,413. The trustees are satisfied that the current level of reserves is satisfactory bearing in mind the current funding climate, with the assurance of its partners in the event of lower student numbers than required as per contracts.

Taxation

The company is a registered charity which is exempt from UK income tax, corporation tax and capital gains tax as long as the income it receives is applied for charitable purposes.

Structure and Governance

LCT is governed by the provisions contained within its Memorandum and Articles of Association, the requirement of its partner institutions and other statutory and charity laws.

The statutory governing body also known as the Board of Trustees, normally meets four times a year.

LCT was incorporated on 14 May 2009 as a limited company (No. 06905282) and its governing documents are the Memorandum and Articles of Association. LCT is registered with the Charity Commissioners (No. 1136478). Revised Articles of Association were adopted on 25th May 2017.

Every member has a personal limited liability to £10 under their guarantee as company members in the event of it being wound up.

Decision-making structure

The Board of trustees are responsible for the vision, strategy, and policy of LCT.

The Board has delegated responsibility for the day-to-day management of the company to the Principal, working with the Chair. This includes:

- Advising on action needed to raise the income necessary to finance expenditure;
- Advising founder members of the financial aspects of its policy and on any other matters referred to it;
- Preparation of an annual budget;
- Budgetary control within the approved budget.

Appointment of Board of Trustees

The trustees are members of the Board (see page 5). All trustees are appointed as per the Articles of Association. Trustees receive on-going training, as appropriate.

Sub-committee structure

In accordance with clause 40 of the Articles of Association, the Board of trustees has established one sub-committee the Board of Studies and the TEI Management Committee for the Common Awards programmes. The functions of the Board of Studies are to:

- Make recommendations to the staff about addressing student and tutor needs;
- Make recommendations to the Board of Examiners about awards;
- Make recommendations to the BA in Theology, Ministry and Mission (BATMM) Joint Working Group about operational issues in the Initial Ministerial Education programme;
- Encourage consistency in marking;
- Handle appeals from and about students and tutors;
- Determine, where appropriate, whether students need to re-present assignments or re-take particular modules.

Trustees' responsibilities

The Board (who are also directors of Lindisfarne College of Theology for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires that the Board are to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Board must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Board are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Board are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities

Related parties

The trustees acknowledge that related party transactions may occur.

Any decision by a charity to enter into a transaction ought to be influenced only by the consideration of the charity's own interests. This does not necessarily mean that all transactions with related parties are influenced by the consideration of interests other than the charities nor that they are liable to invalidation, but transparency is important and therefore information about such transactions is necessary.

Connected charities

Following the adoption of the revised Articles of Association in May 2017, the trustees consider there are no connected charities.

Pension scheme

The Church of England Pensions Board is responsible for the Clergy Pension Fund and the Church Workers Pension Fund and it is to this body that the LCT pays retirement benefit contributions for its employees (see note 12 to the accounts).

Risk management

The Board confirm that the major risks to which the LCT are exposed, as identified by the Board and staff, have been reviewed and that systems and procedures have been established to manage those risks. The Board will ensure that risks are reviewed and managed as part of the risk management strategy.

Appointment of Independent Examiner

UNW LLP have been re-appointed as Independent examiner

By Order of the Board

The Revd Canon Dr A B Bartlett
Joint Acting Chair

16th January 2025

Administrative Details

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

The Revd Canon Dr A B Bartlett (Joint Acting Chair)
The Revd S McCormack (Joint Acting Chair)
The Revd Dr D E G Whiting (left 10.10.2024)
A J Hewitt
Ven R A Wood Archdeacon of Northumberland
S Morgan
Revd K J Bagnall

Independent examiner

UNW LLP
Chartered Accountants
Citygate, St. James' Boulevard
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4JE

Bankers

Co-operative Bank Plc
PO Box 250, Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Solicitors

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The Cube, Barrack Road
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE4 6DB

Registered Office

Church House, St John's Terrace
North Shields, NE29 6HS
(Telephone: 01912 704144) (Fax: 01912 704101)
(Website: www.lindisfarnect.org)
(Email: enquiries@lindisfarnect.org)

Company registered number: 06905282

Registered charity number: 1136478

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Lindisfarne College of Theology ('the company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 August 2024.

This report is made solely to the company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the company's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the company (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the company's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I 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 can confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.

Anne Hallowell BSc FCA DChA

UNW LLP

Newcastle upon Tyne

Date: 16 January 2025

LINDISFARNE COLLEGE OF THEOLOGY LTD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income from					
Diocesan course fees	2	94,977	-	94,977	212,530
Income from charitable activities:					
Ministry Division Fees		140,574	-	140,574	-
Other income		12,983	228	13,211	50,048
Other course fees		50,892	-	50,892	40,839
Bank Interest		3,960	-	3,960	2,169
Total income		<u>303,386</u>	<u>228</u>	<u>303,614</u>	<u>305,586</u>
Expenditure on					
Charitable activities	3	390,028	1,000	391,028	336,197
Total expenditure		<u>390,028</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>391,028</u>	<u>336,197</u>
Net expenditure before investment (losses)/gains	4	(86,642)	(772)	(87,414)	(30,611)
Net gain/(loss) on investment					
Unrealised gain/(loss) on investment assets	8	<u>7,966</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,966</u>	<u>765</u>
Net expenditure		(78,676)	(772)	(79,448)	(29,846)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		196,186	1,118	197,304	227,150
Total funds as at 31 August 2024	13	<u>117,510</u>	<u>346</u>	<u>117,856</u>	<u>197,304</u>

LINDISFARNE COLLEGE OF THEOLOGY LIMITED
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	7	630	-
Investments	8	<u>77,283</u>	<u>69,316</u>
		77,913	69,316
Current assets			
Debtors	9	14,377	20,489
Cash at bank		<u>96,858</u>	<u>131,022</u>
		111,235	151,511
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(71,292)	(23,523)
Net current assets		<u>39,943</u>	<u>127,988</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		117,856	197,304
Net assets		<u>117,856</u>	<u>197,304</u>
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted income funds	12	117,510	196,557
Restricted income funds	12	346	747
Total Funds		<u>117,856</u>	<u>197,304</u>

For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the members of the Board on the 16th January 2025 and are signed on their behalf by:

The Revd Canon Dr A B Bartlett
Joint Acting Chair
Company number 06905282

1. Principal accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities (SORP 2019), the Companies Act 2006 and applicable accounting standards (FRS 102).

The principal accounting policies and estimation techniques are as follows.

Basis of preparation

LCT prepares its annual financial statements on the basis of historical cost except for investments which are shown at market value. The financial statements are drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £1.

Going concern

Taking into account the levels of unrestricted reserves, cash balances and anticipated spend over the coming 12 months, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when LCT is legally entitled to them as income or capital respectively, ultimate receipt is probable and the amount to be recognised can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Grants received which are subject to pre-conditions for entitlement specified by the donor which have not been met at the year-end are included in creditors to be carried forward to the following year.

The principal source of income of LCT is course fee income from Durham Diocesan Board of Finance and Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance. These are recognised in the SOFA in the period in which they are receivable.

Other sundry income is recognised in the SOFA in the accounting period in which monies are receivable.

Resources expended

Expenditure is included on the accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the SOFA category.

Cash flow statement

The trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that LCT is a small entity.

Pensions

The LCT's staff are members of the Church Workers Pension Fund and Church of England Funded Pensions Scheme. The pension costs charged as resources expended represent the LCT's contributions payable in respect of the accounting period, in accordance with FRS 102. Deficit funding for the pension scheme to which LCT participates is accrued at current value within creditors.

Depreciation on other tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided in order to write off the cost (less any residual value) of other fixed assets over their currently expected useful economic lives at the following initial rates:-

<i>Computers</i>	<i>25% per annum straight line</i>
<i>Equipment and Furniture</i>	<i>20% per annum straight line</i>

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount repaid net of any trade discounts due.

LINDISFARNE COLLEGE OF THEOLOGY LTD
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the company has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the opinion of the Trustees there are no material estimates that impacts on the financial statements.

2 Diocesan course fee income	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023 £
Durham Diocesan Board of Finance	58,729	58,729	156,090
Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance	36,248	36,248	56,440
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	94,977	94,977	212,530
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

3 Costs of charitable activity by activity type	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Academic costs	303,035	-	303,035	273,817
Administration costs	63,305	-	63,305	58,899
Governance costs	11,984	-	11,984	2,881
Grants given	11,704	1,000	12,704	600
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	390,028	1,000	391,028	336,197
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

4 Net expenditure for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation	210	351
Independent examination fee	1,920	1,710

5 Employee details

The average headcount during the year was as follows

	2024	2023
	No	No
Academic staff	5.0	3.0
Administrative staff	2.0	2.9
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	7.0	5.9
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2024	2023
	No	No
Academic staff	2.7	2.0
Administrative staff	1.6	1.2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4.3	3.2
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Total staff costs were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	186,198	158,938
Social security costs	17,109	13,829
Other pension costs	18,593	14,971
Movement in pension liability	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	221,900	187,738
	<hr/>	<hr/>

6 Trustees Remuneration and Expenses

No remuneration has been paid to any trustee in their capacity as a trustee (2023: £nil).

One trustee was reimbursed £206 for travel, subsistence and incidental costs incurred in undertaking the role (2023: £nil).

7 Tangible Assets

	Computers, Equipment & Furniture
	£
At cost	
At 1 September 2023	5,434
Additions	840
	<hr/>
At 31 August 2024	6,274
	<hr/>
Accumulated depreciation	
At 1 September 2023	(5,434)
Charge for the year	(210)
	<hr/>
At 31 August 2024	(5,644)
	<hr/>
Net book value at 31 August 2024	630
	<hr/>
Net book value at 31 August 2023	0
	<hr/>

8 Investments

	Listed investments
	£
Within the United Kingdom	
At 1 September 2023	69,316
Revaluations	7,966
	<hr/>
At 31 August 2024	77,282
	<hr/>
Historic Cost at 31 August 2024	30,000
	<hr/>

9 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	4,177	13,777
Prepayments and accrued income	10,200	6,712
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	14,377	20,489
	<hr/>	<hr/>

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	31,184	8,120
Other creditors	22,126	3,809
Accruals and deferred income	17,982	11,594
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	71,292	23,523
	<hr/>	<hr/>

11 Pensions

Lindisfarne College of Theology Ltd participates in the Church of England Funded Pensions Scheme for stipendiary clergy, a defined benefit pension scheme. This scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the scheme separately from those of the Responsible Bodies.

Each participating Responsible Body in the Church of England Funded Pensions Scheme pays contributions at a common contribution rate applied to pensionable stipends.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. It is not possible to attribute the Scheme's assets and liabilities to each specific Responsible Body, and this means contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable towards benefits and expenses accrued in that year, which were £5,505 in 2024 (2023: £4,871), plus any figures arising from contributions in respect of the Scheme's deficit (see below). The 2021 valuation showed the Scheme to be fully funded and as such in 2024, following the valuation results being agreed, the deficit contributions paid were £0 (2023: £0).

A valuation of the Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent Scheme valuation completed was carried out at as 31 December 2021. The 2021 valuation revealed a surplus of £560m, based on assets of £2,720m and a funding target of £2,160m, assessed using the following assumptions:

- An average discount rate of 2.7% p.a.;
- RPI inflation of 3.6% p.a. (and pension increases consistent with this);
- CPIH inflation in line with RPI less 0.8% pre 2030 moving to RPI with no adjustment from 2030 onwards;
- Increase in pensionable stipends in line with CPIH;

- Mortality in accordance with 90% of the S3NA tables, with allowance for improvements in mortality rates from 2013 in line with the CMI2020 extended model with a long term annual rate of improvement of 1.5%, a smoothing parameter of 7, an initial addition to mortality improvements of 0.5% pa and an allowance for 2020 data of 0% (i.e. w2020 = 0%).

Following finalisation of the 31 December 2021 valuation, deficit contributions ceased with effect from 1 January 2023, since the Scheme was fully funded.

The deficit recovery contributions under the recovery plan in force at each 31 December were as follows:

	% of pensionable stipends
31 December 2021	7.1% payable from January 2021 to December 2022
31 December 2022	Nil
31 December 2023	Nil

An interim reduction to deficit contributions to 3.2% of pensionable stipends was made with effect from April 2022, and remained in place until December 2022.

For senior office holders, pensionable stipends are adjusted in the calculations by a multiple, as set out in the Scheme's rules.

Section 28.11A of FRS 102 requires agreed deficit recovery payments to be recognised as a liability. However, as there are no agreed deficit recovery payments from 1 January 2023 onwards, the balance sheet liability as at 31 December 2022 is nil. The movement in the balance sheet liability over 2021 and over 2022 is set out in the table below.

	2023	2022
Balance sheet liability at 1 January	-	2,000
Deficit contribution paid	-	-1,000
Interest cost (recognised in SoFA)	-	0
Remaining change to the balance sheet liability* (recognised in SoFA)	-	-1,000
Balance sheet liability at 31 December	-	0

* Comprises change in agreed deficit recovery plan, and change in discount rate and inflation assumptions between year-ends.

This liability represents the present value of the deficit contributions agreed as at the accounting date and has been valued using the following assumptions. No assumptions are needed for December 2022 as there are no agreed deficit recovery payments going forward. No price inflation assumption was needed for December 2021 since pensionable stipends for the remainder of the recovery plan were already known.

	December 2023	December 2022	December 2021
Discount rate	n/a	n/a	0.0% pa
Price inflation	n/a	n/a	n/a
Increase to total pensionable payroll	n/a	n/a	-1.5% pa

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another Responsible Body fails, Lindisfarne College of Theology Ltd could become responsible for paying a share of that failed Responsible Body's pension liabilities.

Lay Employees

LCT participates in the Church of England Pension Builder Scheme (PBS14 and Classic), part of the Church Workers Pension Fund. During the year to 31 August 2024, the LCT made contributions of £13,088 (2023: £11,100) and this has been taken as the pension cost shown in these accounts.

At 31st August 2024 LCT had 3 active members in PBS14 and 1 in Classic.

12 Movement in Funds

Summary of fund movements	Balance at 1 Sep 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Gains and losses £	Balance at 31 Aug 2024 £
Unrestricted Income Funds:					
General Funds	196,186	303,386	(390,028)	7,966	117,510
Restricted Funds	1,118	228	(1,000)	-	346
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Funds	197,304	303,614	(391,028)	7,966	117,856
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Represented by:

Analysis of net assets between funds

	Fixed assets £	Net current assets £	Long term liabilities £	Total £
General Funds	77,913	39,597	-	117,510
Restricted Funds	-	346	-	346
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Funds	77,913	39,943	-	117,856
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

	Fixed assets £	Net current assets £	Long term liabilities £	Total £
General Funds	69,316	127,241	-	196,557
Restricted Funds	-	747	-	747
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Funds	69,316	127,988	-	197,304
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

13 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in either period.