

THE MOTHERS' UNION (DIOCESE OF LEEDS)
Registered Charity 1164024

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Mothers' Union, Diocese of Leeds

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024. In presenting this report, the Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's objectives and in planning future activities.

The Trustees accepted and signed off the accounts for 2024 at the Trustee Meeting on Friday 16th May 2025.

Risk to the Charity

The Trustees are satisfied that the balance in the accounts is sufficient for the charity to continue in 2026. The members' annual subscription for 2025 remained at £33, made up of £24.50 subscription to the Central Mothers' Union charity, an increase of £1.50 from 2024, and £8.50 to the Diocese, a reduction of £1.50 from 2024. Expenses are still reduced slightly by the use of Zoom for some meetings.

Structure, governance and management

The affairs of the charity are governed by the terms of the central Mothers' Union's Royal Charter, granted in 1926 and which is registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales (240531).

The Board of Trustees manages the charity. They met on four occasions during 2024 all of them at Church House in Leeds. The Trustees are elected tri-annually by the members of the charity's Council consisting of the Diocesan President, members of the Trustee Board, Team Leaders, Branch Leaders and Past Presidents of the charity living in the Diocese. The Chaplain is appointed by the Diocesan Bishop. The Diocesan President and Trustees remained in place for the third year of this triennium.

The Council and Annual General Meeting was held on 6th June 2024 when information was shared and matters debated with the members present. A further Council was held on 14th November 2024.

Elections for the Diocesan President and Trustee Board for the Triennium 2025-27 took place in 2024.

Training for Trustees was provided at the beginning of the three-year period in 2022.

The trustees who served in 2024 were:

Mrs Elaine Swinhoe	Diocesan President
Rev Jenny Kimber	Area President - Bradford Episcopal Area
Mrs Daryl Kelly	Area President - Leeds Episcopal Area
Mrs Margaret Crawford	Area President - Ripon Episcopal Area
Mrs Susan Atherton	Area President - Wakefield Episcopal Area
Mrs Julia Tum	Area President - Huddersfield Episcopal Area
Miss Elizabeth Johnson	General Trustee
Mrs Evelyn Haigh	General Trustee
Mrs Barbara Vaughan	General Trustee
Mrs Gillian Wilks	General Trustee
Mrs Jenni Wohlman	General Trustee (app 1/12/2023 and resigned 31/12/24)
Mrs Yvonne Hutson	Co-opted Trustee representing the Outreach Team

Trustees are appointed for a three-year term.

The charity does not own any property other than two caravans on the East Coast which are to provide holidays for families in need of a break.

For administrative purposes the contact address used by the charity throughout 2024 was 94 Victoria Gardens, Leeds, LS18 4PH.

Officers

The following officers acted on behalf of the charity throughout the year:

Diocesan Chaplain:	Rt Revd Smitha Prasadam, Bishop of Huddersfield
Diocesan Treasurer:	Mr Paul Leeming
Diocesan Secretary:	Mrs Joanna Sarkar

Bankers

The charity's bankers are Barclays Bank plc, Leicester, LE87 2BB

Accounts and Independent Examination

Independent Examination was undertaken by Mrs Elizabeth Short FCA, of Streets Spenser Wilson (Yorkshire) Ltd, Equitable House, 55 Pellon Lane, Halifax HX1 5SP. The accounts are in agreement with the accounting records. The Independent Examiner's report is attached.

Membership

The charity is a membership body. Membership can be of a specific branch, linked to an Anglican church parish, or of the diocese, when members can choose to attend branch meetings but rely more heavily on written and electronic communication for contact with fellow members. A requested proportion of the membership fee has been forwarded to the central Mothers' Union.

In 2024 we had 1303 members and 66 branches. 482 members now pay their subscription by Direct Debit. In 2023 we had 1396 members and 73 branches.

Membership in 2024 numbered 1303. Of these, 189 members were Diocesan Members. The remaining members were members of one of the branches. About 16 members, who are unable to attend meetings, usually due to age or infirmity, are designated Indoor Members.

The membership in 2024 worked in the five Episcopal Areas of Leeds, Ripon, Bradford, Huddersfield and Wakefield, in accordance with the structure of the Anglican Diocese of Leeds.

The work is organised in Teams (Prayer, Outreach, Communication, Membership, Diocesan Services and Mothers' Union Retail) each having a Team Leader and covering aspects as shall from time to time be determined by the Board of Trustees.

Diocesan Services	leader Mrs Margaret Bentley
Prayer	leader Mrs Jean Thurman
Membership	leader Mrs Mary Marshall
Communications	vacant
Outreach	leader Mrs Yvonne Hutson
MU Retail	vacant (various people in the 5 Episcopal Areas)
Safeguarding	Mrs Evelyn Haigh

Restrictions imposed by the Governing Document concerning the way in which the charity may operate

Branches of the charity have the power to support the needs of their parishes, subject to the aim, purpose and objects of Mothers' Union. However, branches are not permitted to be used as a channel for charitable appeals on behalf of other organisations, nor is money permitted to be allocated to such organisations from branch funds.

Risk Management

The Trustees have throughout their term of service recognised their responsibility to identify the key risks to which the charity was exposed and to ensure that measures were in place and monitored to mitigate against these risks. Adequate insurance cover has been in place to protect the charity against financial loss.

Objectives and Activities

Our Vision Statement

Mothers' Union, in the Diocese of Leeds, through the love of God and in partnership with the church, seeks to reach out creatively and actively to support stable family relationships and to promote a more just society.

Our Mission

We aim to show our Christian faith by the transformation of communities worldwide. We can do this through supporting strong relationships within the family and promoting reconciliation at all levels.

Our Values

1. We are firmly rooted in a voluntary ethos centered on mutual respect and collaboration.
2. Our governance, leadership and programmes are driven by and undertaken through members within their own communities worldwide.
3. We work with people of all faiths and none.

Our Aims and Objectives

- To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children
- To maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service
- To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children.
- To help those whose family life has met with adversity
- To promote and support married life

Activities during 2024

Fundraising for Mothers' Union's family-centred projects in the UK and overseas continued throughout the year. A number of branches held Summer of Hope events to raise funds for the central appeal. Members also contributed to the Make a Mother's Day Appeal by buying a "Gift of Dignity" to support Global projects that transform the lives of women.

Various services for Lady Day, Mary Sumner Day and Advent were held across the diocese to make it easier for members to attend and share fellowship. The Council Meeting in June also included a talk from a Christian charity that collects unwanted usable tools, refurbishes them and sends them to the developing world for livelihood creation.

Members continued to support the central Mothers' Union's Financial Appeals during the year to ensure the continuance of financial support for overseas work.

Achievements and Performance

We have attempted to maintain active links with linked dioceses in Nigeria, the Solomon Islands, Lesotho and Rwanda, although there are still communication problems with some dioceses. Branches participated in the Global Wave of Prayer in January 2024 and regular mid-day prayers have been said via across the Diocese - some via Zoom and some in person at the cathedrals. A prayer network has continued in all five Episcopal Areas through which requests for anyone experiencing ill health or other troubles is prayed for. Regular newsletters were sent to members and a website providing or signposting resources and information continued.

OUTREACH WORK

Branches were encouraged to record their outreach work on the central MU Live website

Prison Support

Work in prisons took place throughout 2024. Sweets and Christmas cards were delivered to three prisons in the diocese. Cooking with women prisoners in New Hall Prison, showing nutritional meals on a budget and teaching cooking skills happened on a monthly basis. Members assisted in the Mother and Baby Unit as well as providing refreshments for visitors in the Tea Bar. Help was also provided on Family Days.

AFIA Holidays

We were pleased to be able to continue providing family (AFIA - Away From It All) holidays to those in need during 2024 in our two caravans on the coast. In 2024 there were 33 holidays given which included 60 adults and 45 children - 10 of the adults were over 60, 8 of the adults and 3 of the children had special needs, 2 families had an adult with a terminal illness, 2 families where the grandparents had custody of their grandchildren, 3 families put forward by Rose McCarthy from the City of Sanctuary and 2 holidays were taken by MU members. These were all families who had not had a holiday for many years and desperately needed a break.

Community Support (Making and Collecting Projects)

Members reached out by keeping busy with knitting items to support local women's refuges, hospitals and care homes and by supplying emergency toiletry packs to hospitals. These included Baby Blankets, Cardigans, Mittens, Bootees, Gloves, Cot Blankets, Bonding Squares, Gloves/Mittens, Scarves, Hats, Twiddle Muffs, Knee Blankets, Stuffed Toy, Pairs of Hearts, Knitted Baby Cribs, Angel Pockets.

Work with Partner Organisations supporting Families

Food Banks -Some members volunteered at local food banks or provided food to be distributed. A reprint of our own "Food on a Budget" booklet is still available.

Baby Banks - Members collect baby clothes and equipment in support of Baby Banks. These are agencies which enable new mums to have the items they need after the birth of a baby and also support families fleeing from domestic violence.

Supporting Refugees - Sanitary and hygiene products were provided for refugee centres and a church in a deprived area.

Refuges - Food, clothing, toiletries, bedding, towels and clothes were provided for a number of women's refuges.

Homeless Shelters - Food, clothing, towels and toiletries.

Hospitals

Emergency toilet bags and knitted hearts were given to hospitals as well as hats for premature babies.

Care Homes

Twiddle muffs, Prayer Shawls and knee blankets were provided.

Primary Schools

Knitted mittens were provided for children who arrived at school with cold hands. Pupils were also helped with reading.

CHURCH SUPPORT - churches were supported with Easter and Mothering Sunday gifts, knitted nativity sets and Baptism cards and gifts. Members assisted with Sunday schools and youth work.

Prayers were offered on a daily basis and the diocesan wide Prayer Network ensured those families and individuals suffering from illness, bereavement and loneliness were remembered.

POLICY and CAMPAIGNING

Our support and influence as a worldwide organisation on policy and campaigning is of huge value in raising awareness of the issues that cause adversity in family life. Mothers' Union campaigns at international, national and local level. In 2024 local action during the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based violence (Nov 25th- Dec 10th) involved raising awareness through holding themed services such as the one at Halifax Minster when MU members joined with the Women's Centre in Calderdale. We also supported the Global Day on 25th November by holding a number of vigils like the one at

St Paul's Shipley when the theme was again "No more 1 in 3" (This refers to the fact that 1 in 3 women worldwide suffer abuse during their lifetime).

Mothers' Union also works with the Clewer Initiative to raise awareness of Modern Slavery in the UK.

Financial Review

The results are reported in the financial statements accompanying this report.

The Trustees received no remuneration for their services although they were eligible to claim reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred in the course of their trusteeship.

Surplus for the Year

The Charity had a surplus of £4,085 (2023: £6,556) on unrestricted funds and a deficit of £3,842 (2023: surplus £13,176) on restricted funds.

Reserves Policy

The Charity maintains unrestricted cash reserves which are approximately one year's running costs. The Trustees are of the opinion that this amount is reasonable.

Unrestricted funds are £134,730 (2023: £130,645) including designated funds of £16,458 (2023: £17,540) therefore the present level of free reserves available to the charity is £118,272 (2023: £114,187). Restricted funds are £59,277 (2023: £63,119).



Julia Tum
Diocesan President
16th May 2025

Section A: Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ending 31 December 2024

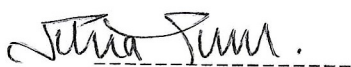
	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024	Total 2023
Income					
Donations		50,880	23,054	73,934	94,968
Charitable Activities		7,056	1,240	8,296	9,013
Bank Interest		5,225	-	5,225	3,988
Gain on Disposal of Assets		-	-	-	-
Total Income	2	63,160	24,294	87,454	107,969
Expenditure					
Raising Funds		10,790	-	10,790	12,187
Charitable Activities		31,783	28,136	59,920	58,983
Diocesan Administration		16,502	-	16,502	17,067
Total Expenditure	3	59,075	28,136	87,212	88,237
Net Income / (Expenditure)		4,085	(3,842)	243	19,733
Opening Balance		130,645	63,119	193,764	174,031
Total Funds Carried Forward		134,730	59,277	194,007	193,764

Section B: Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024	Total 2023
Fixed Assets					
Caravans	4	-	16,016	16,016	20,588
		-	16,016	16,016	20,588
Current Assets					
Mue Stock	5	807	-	807	810
Prepayments	6	-	12,831	12,831	12,254
Gift Aid Tax Refund Due	7	1,907	-	1,907	201
Cash at Bank and In Hand	8	135,086	30,430	165,515	169,339
		137,800	43,261	181,061	182,603
Current Liabilities					
Accruals	9	3,071	-	3,071	9,427
Net Current Assets		134,730	43,261	177,990	173,176
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		134,730	59,277	194,007	193,764
Charity Funds		134,730	59,277	194,007	193,764
Total Funds	11	134,730	59,277	194,007	193,764

Signed Julia Tum, Leeds Mothers' Union Diocesan President and trustee on behalf of all the trustees.



Dated 16 May 2025.

Section C: Notes to the Accounts
for the year ending 31 December 2024

Note 1: Basis of Preparation and Policies

1) These accounts have been prepared:

- a) On an accruals basis.
- b) Under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.
- c) In accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom (FRS 102) and with the Charities Act 2011.

2) Going Concern:

From the review of forecasts and projections the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees have therefore continued to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

3) All income is recognised when the Charity becomes legally entitled and the amount quantifiable with reasonable accuracy.

4) Fund Accounting:

- a) Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.
- b) Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.
- c) Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

5) Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty:

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

There are not considered to be any judgements or accounting estimates or assumptions that have a significant impact on the financial statements.

6) Financial instruments:

The charity only has financial assets and financial 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 with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Note 2: Income

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024	Total 2023
Donations				
Subscriptions	42,999		42,999	41,880
Collections and Donations	6,175	23,054	29,229	51,626
Gift Aid Tax Refund	1,706		1,706	1,462
	<u>50,880</u>	<u>23,054</u>	<u>73,934</u>	<u>94,968</u>
Charitable Activities				
MUe Sales	5,687		5,687	6,326
MUe Sales Commission	1,369		1,369	1,363
New Hall Prison Tea Bar Income	-	1,240	1,240	1,325
	<u>7,056</u>	<u>1,240</u>	<u>8,296</u>	<u>9,013</u>
Bank Interest	<u>5,225</u>		<u>5,225</u>	<u>3,988</u>
Gain on Disposal of Assets	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Income	<u>63,160</u>	<u>24,294</u>	<u>87,454</u>	<u>107,969</u>

Note 3: Expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023	Total 2023
Raising Funds				
Branch Expenses	5,376		5,376	5,914
Mue Purchases	5,414		5,414	6,273
	<u>10,790</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,790</u>	<u>12,187</u>
Charitable Activities				
Subscriptions to MSH	29,762		29,762	29,274
Donations to MSH Projects	-	6,321	6,321	6,755
AFIA Expenses	-	16,037	16,037	16,380
Caravan Depreciation	-	4,572	4,572	4,572
New Hall Prison Tea Bar	-	1,020	1,020	1,361
Outreach and Prayer	1,571	186	1,757	406
Church Services	-		-	-
Publications	-		-	125
Training	440		440	100
Badges and Banners	10		10	10
	<u>31,783</u>	<u>28,136</u>	<u>59,920</u>	<u>58,983</u>
Diocesan Administration				
Secretarial and Accounting	12,831		12,831	12,761
Travel	117		117	397
Post and Stationery	1,702		1,702	1,686
Insurance	760		760	719
Room Rent and Meeting Costs	781		781	1,148
Bank Charges	-		-	-
Sundry	311		311	355
	<u>16,502</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,502</u>	<u>17,067</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>59,075</u>	<u>28,136</u>	<u>87,212</u>	<u>88,237</u>

Note 4: Fixed Assets - Caravans

	Cost	Depreciation	Net Book Value
At Start of Year	45,717	25,129	20,588
2024 Additions			-
2024 Disposals			-
2024 Depreciation		4,572	(4,572)
At End of Year	<u>45,717</u>	<u>29,701</u>	<u>16,016</u>

At the end of 2018 a new caravan was purchased for £23,013.

At the end of 2017 a new caravan was purchased for £22,704.

Caravans are depreciated on a straight line basis. It is anticipated that both caravans have a 10 year life.

Note 5: Stock

Stock is measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Note 6: Prepayments

Prepayments of £12,831 are site rents for the two caravans relating to 2025 but transacted in 2024.

Note 7: Gift Aid Tax Refund Due

2023/24 Gift Aid Tax Refund of £1,907 was due at year end.

Note 8: Cash at Bank and In Hand

Cash at Bank and In Hand includes £21,077 (2023 £24,022) held by branches.

Note 9: Accruals

Accruals are for known expenditures relating to 2024 but transacted in 2025.

Note 10: Statements

- 1) The success of the Mothers' Union is dependent on the many dedicated unpaid volunteers.
- 2) Trustees receive no payments except for expenses incurred.
- 3) Two trustees incurred total expenses of £118 (2023 £248) for travel and £24 (2023 £20) for office expenses.
- 4) There are no employees.
- 5) The Independent Examiner's fees are £500 + £100 vat (2023 £500 + £100 vat). The independent examiner received no other fees.

Note 11: 2024 Funds

Details of funds held and movements in 2024 are shown below.

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Total Funds Closing Balance	Cash Closing Balance
Restricted Funds						
AFIA Replacement	8,456	1,419	-	-	9,875	9,875
AFIA Running	52,575	15,314	20,609	-	47,280	18,433
Newhall Prison Tea Bar	696	1,240	1,020	-	917	917
Kitty Cooper Bursary	1,391	-	186	-	1,205	1,205
Overseas	-	3,156	3,156	-	-	-
Relief	-	360	360	-	-	-
Big Summer Appeal	-	1,930	1,930	-	-	-
Britain & Ireland Development	-	-	-	-	-	-
Literacy	-	-	-	-	-	-
Make a Mother's Day	-	875	875	-	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	63,119	24,294	28,136	-	59,277	30,430
Unrestricted Funds						
Prayer	3,626	-	-	-	3,626	3,626
Outreach	6,411	929	1,571	-	5,769	5,769
Training	7,503	-	440	-	7,063	7,063
Unallocated Funds	113,105	62,231	57,064	-	118,272	118,628
Total Unrestricted Funds	130,645	63,160	59,075	-	134,730	135,086
Total Funds per Balance Sheet	193,764	87,454	87,212	-	194,007	165,515

Fund Descriptions

'AFIA Replacement' is a fund for replacing the two caravans.

'AFIA' provides holidays to disadvantaged families 'Away from it all'.

The 'Newhall Prison Tea Bar' is a low priced café helping families of those held at the prison.

The 'Kitty Cooper Bursary' is to help members afford to attend events.

'Overseas' relates to charitable work carried on outside the UK.

'Relief' provides funding to support families overseas when emergencies occur.

The 'Big Summer Appeal' supports a number of Mary Sumner House projects.

'Britain & Ireland Development' is a fund to help in the home countries.

'Literacy' is a fund to improve reading and writing.

'Make a Mother's Day' is a fund to help disadvantaged mothers.

'Prayer' provides funding for prayer resources including for 'Indoor Members'.

'Outreach' includes other projects to support families in the Diocese.

'Training' is to provide training for members.

'Unallocated Funds' includes £21,077 (2023 £24,022) held by branches in bank accounts and cash in hand.

Note 12: 2023 Funds

Details of funds held and movements in 2023 are shown below.

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Total Funds Closing Balance	Cash Closing Balance
Restricted Funds						
AFIA Replacement	7,400	1,056	-	-	8,456	8,456
AFIA Running	40,224	33,303	20,951	-	52,575	19,734
Newhall Prison Tea Bar	733	1,325	1,361	-	696	696
Kitty Cooper Bursary	1,586	-	195	-	1,391	1,391
Overseas	-	3,172	3,172	-	-	-
Relief	-	185	185	-	-	-
Big Summer Appeal	-	2,911	2,911	-	-	-
Britain & Ireland Development	-	-	-	-	-	-
Literacy	-	220	220	-	-	-
Make a Mother's Day	-	268	268	-	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	49,943	42,439	29,263	-	63,119	30,277
Unrestricted Funds						
Prayer	3,655	20	49	-	3,626	3,626
Outreach	6,331	242	162	-	6,411	6,411
Training	7,603	-	100	-	7,503	7,503
Unallocated Funds	106,500	65,268	58,663	-	113,105	121,522
Total Unrestricted Funds	124,089	65,530	58,974	-	130,645	139,061
Total Funds per Balance Sheet	174,031	107,969	88,237	-	193,764	169,339

Fund Descriptions

'AFIA Replacement' is a fund for replacing the two caravans.

'AFIA' provides holidays to disadvantaged families 'Away from it all'.

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The 'Kitty Cooper Bursary' is to help members afford to attend events.

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The 'Big Summer Appeal' supports a number of Mary Sumner House projects.

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'Literacy' is a fund to improve reading and writing.

'Make a Mother's Day' is a fund to help disadvantaged mothers.

'Prayer' provides funding for prayer resources including for 'Indoor Members'.

'Outreach' includes other projects to support families in the Diocese.

'Training' is to provide training for members.

'Unallocated Funds' includes £24,022 (2022 £21,574) held by branches in bank accounts and cash in hand.

THE MOTHERS' UNION (DIOCESE OF LEEDS)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF MOTHERS' UNION (DIOCESE OF LEEDS)

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Mothers' Union (Diocese of Leeds) ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

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 charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements 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.



Mrs E A Short BFP FCA
Independent Examiner

Equitable House
55 Pellon Lane
Halifax
West Yorkshire
HX1 5SP

16 May 2025