



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

**From: 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023 To: 19<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

**Charity name: Romanian Orthodox Church on Merseyside**

**Charity registration number: 1170197**

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The Advancement of the Christian religion by the provision of a place of worship on Merseyside.</p> <p>Activities in furtherance of this will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Provision of financial support and governance to maintain a Romanian Orthodox church parish on Merseyside for use by the public of the region and elsewhere. This will include:</li><li>b) Raising awareness and understanding of the Orthodox Christian church in the local community.</li><li>c) Enabling Orthodox Christian religious devotional acts in the church.</li></ul>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>Provision of a functioning church which itself provides regular services of the orthodox Christian faith in its own church building. Wirral Council have provided the church building (it was previously derelict) and the charity was established (under a legal framework) to raise and manage funds for the repair, improvement and maintenance of the church.</p> <p>The charity considers that it been successful so far and that the church is continually improving as a Christian and cultural support facility for Romanians living in the NW of England and North Wales.</p> <p>All church services are free and open to the general public.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public	Para 1.18	<p>The trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit and are complicit with its requirements.</p>

benefit		
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### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	We do not provide grants for other organisations
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	We are not involved in any social investment programmes
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Volunteers make a huge difference to the charity's activities and this takes many forms. These include provision of free professional building skills eg plastering and electrical work. Also included are maintenance, cleaning and transport roles and provision of a Sunday school. They also assist the priest in his many duties.
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	At Bebington, the charity has made many contributions to our church (St Paisie) fabric, facilities and activities over the last 8 years. Indeed, there are very few improvements which need to be made. Post pandemic, the numbers attending services have steadily risen back to what they were previously. Indeed, this small church is often overwhelmed on Sundays. Consequently, following advanced discussions with the Liverpool Catholic Diocese ROCOM has been granted a 25 year lease on a vacant church building in Liverpool, in Bootle and we took over this building in early 2024 and refurbished it to make it suitable for orthodox church services. This church (St Ephraim) accommodates 150-200 worshippers. We use both churches regularly. This has enabled greater church attendance and made travel easier for worshippers as we now have churches in 2 distinct sites on Merseyside.

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	As the Bebbington church fabric is now more or less settled, we have relatively little expenditure beyond running costs. At Bootle, we have considerable utilities costs but we are still financially very stable
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We have a reserve to replace some poor roof timbers at St Paisie and to cover any emergency. At St Ephraim, we do not have a separate hall, making Sunday school a very difficult activity and we are campaigning for funds to either buy or build a hall locally. We may need to relocate St Ephraim to satisfy this need.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£100,000
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Principal income is from the parishioners and their donations
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	<b>None</b>
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Very few issues; our income and planning strategy works very well. The major risk would be loss of priest as we only have one. There is the possibility we will be granted another priest in the future. Any government restrictions on immigration from EU countries could affect numbers of church goers.
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Foundation Model CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Selected from the Church Council and appointed as agreed by chair and secretary. We maintain a 50:50 gender balance.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The charity is a key part of the church organisation and reports to the church council whose main purpose is ecclesiastical matters in the parish. The charity maintains governance of church finances.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	<b>Romanian Orthodox Church On Merseyside (ROCOM)</b>
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1170197
Charity's principal address	4 Victoria Drive, West Kirby, Wirral, CH48 0QT

### **Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Fr Florin Voinea	Chair		Church Council appoints all
2	Prof Stuart Carter	Secretary/Treasurer		
3	Ms Cristiana Andrada Pintrijel			
4	Dr Dorina Carter-Timofte			
5	Ms Ana Oltean			
6	Mr Daniel Cobel			
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16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

[illegible]

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

[illegible]

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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## Other optional information

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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Dr Stuart David Carter

Position (eg Secretary,  
Chair, etc)

Secretary & Treasurer

Date

18<sup>th</sup> July 2025





CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
Romanian Orthodox Church on Merseyside	1170197

## Receipts and payments accounts


CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	10/20/2023		10/19/2024

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Starting cash balance	119,060	-	-	119,060	79,868
Church Collections	18,652	-	-	18,652	18,480
Candle/icon sales and donations	119,013	-	-	119,013	68,936
Gift Aid refund	11,047	-	-	11,047	15,014
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b> (Gross income for AR)	267,772	-	-	267,772	182,298
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>		55437			
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	267,772	-	-	267,772	182,298
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Insurance	793	-	-	793	748
Religious goods	47,110	-	-	47,110	22,008
Funerals	22,461	-	-	22,461	5,025
Hall/church hire	790	-	-	790	1,159
Electrical goods					810
Running costs	60,437	-	-	60,437	33,488
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	131,591	-	-	131,591	63,238
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total payments</b>	131,591	-	-	131,591	63,238
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	136,181	-	-	136,181	119,060
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	136,181	-	-	136,181	119,060

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	136,181	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details			
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
			Dr Stuart Carter	7/18/2025



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## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

### Section A

### Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name

Romanian Orthodox Church on Merseyside (ROCOM)

On accounts for the year ended

19 October 2024

Charity no (if any)

1170197

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

### Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 19 / 10 /2024.

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 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

24/07/2025

Name:

Ana Oltean

**Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):**

Master of Science in Management and Finance

**Address:**

17 Ascot Drive

Ellesmere Port

CH66 2NB

**Section B**

**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**