



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Louth Churches for Refugees (Registered Charity No. 1177536) will take place in St James's Church House, Louth, at 2pm on Tuesday 21 April 2026.

Agenda:

1. Trustees' Annual Report
2. Annual Statement of Accounts
3. Appointment of Trustees

Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Please note the following information:

- The Trustees' Annual Report and the Annual Statement of Accounts are available on the Louth Churches for Refugees website: <https://louthchurchesforrefugees.org/about-us/latest-news> and some printed copies will be available at the meeting.
- We invite anyone wishing to become a member of the charity to complete a membership application form on arrival. There is no charge for membership, and members sign to confirm that they support the aims and objectives of the charity.
- Anyone wishing to be elected trustee should complete a nomination form on arrival which must include the names of a proposer and seconder who are members of the charity. If there are more nominations than places available then each candidate will be given two minutes to explain to those present why they wish to be elected as a trustee.

Overleaf for information:

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 29 April 2025

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Louth Churches for Refugees

held in St James's Church House, Louth at 2pm on Tuesday 29 April 2025

The meeting was chaired by Jenny Ballantyne. 15 members and supporters of the charity were present, including one person joining the meeting by telephone. Apologies had been received from two members. The meeting was opened in prayer.

1. The meeting received the Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended December 2024 (Proposed: B Utteridge; Seconded: R Malyon).
2. The meeting received the Annual Statement of Accounts for the year ended December 2024 (Proposed: J Fletcher; Seconded: J Ballantyne).
3. Jane Fletcher was stepping down as a trustee and a presentation was made to Jane, with many thanks for her significant contribution to the work of the charity over the years. Max Wilson was duly nominated for election as a trustee. There being no further nominations, Max was declared elected.

The formal business of the meeting was concluded.

An update was provided on the charity's current position, including plans to submit a third Community Sponsorship application, subject to recruitment of additional volunteers. It was noted that the charity was in a sound financial position. Among matters raised in discussion were the following:

- The range of tasks involved in welcoming a family, to include practical help and administrative matters.
- The need for the charity to identify a 'lead sponsor' for a further sponsorship application.
- That considerable preparatory work had been completed on the community sponsorship application form.
- An important outstanding requirement to secure appropriate housing for another family.
- The need to find someone to coordinate English Language support activities.
- That the existing sponsored families were keen to help support welcoming another family to the area.
- Considerable support and training is available from RESET.
- That, in volunteer recruitment, it is helpful to be able to lay out a particular/specific need/s (eg someone to help with preparation for a driving test).
- Local work with asylum seekers and opportunities for joint working with Louth Area of Sanctuary.
- If it is not possible to draw additional volunteers into our work, we are unlikely to be able to proceed with the plan to welcome a third resettled refugee family to Louth. We will also need to face challenging questions about the future viability of the charity.

The meeting was followed by further conversation over refreshments.



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 1 January 2025- 31 December 2025

Charity name: Louth Churches for Refugees

Charity registration number: 1177536

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	The objects of the charity are to relieve financial hardship for: a) those seeking refuge from conflict in the Middle East, North Africa region; b) those granted refugee status and their dependents living in Lincolnshire and Louth in particular; and c) refugee children by the provision of holidays.
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.	The charity's main activities during the year have included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing for and submitting an application to support a third resettled refugee family in Louth, within the Community Sponsorship programme. • Continued support for two previously resettled families albeit our formal responsibilities are at an end. • Regular communications to raise awareness of the activities of the charity and the global situation facing refugees; and encouraging prayer and practical support.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.	In all of the charity's work, the trustees have been mindful of the need to fulfil the charity's charitable purposes and to work for the public benefit. They believe that this has been the case, and that the activities represented by the summary above and in the report that follows demonstrate both the ways in which Louth Churches for Refugees has fulfilled its purposes of relieving financial hardship of those groups specified in its governing document and that this has been undertaken in a way that is demonstrably for the public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

<p>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.</p>	<p>Towards the end of 2024, the trustees of Louth Churches for Refugees decided to move forward to make an application to welcome a third resettled refugee family as part of the Community Sponsorship programme. Reflecting our previous experience, the application process took a period of months during 2025, including various stages – such as local authority approval – which involve timescales out of the charity's control. We were finally in a position to submit our application to the Home Office in October 2025 and are awaiting feedback.</p> <p>Approaching the end of 2025, our focus is on securing appropriate housing for another resettled family, in the context of a rather challenging local housing market in Louth. At the same time we are continuing with other planning and preparation, ahead of a family's arrival – and we appreciate all offers of support - in prayer and practical assistance.</p> <p>The Annual General Meeting of the charity took place at the end of April 2025, and it was good to welcome members, supporters and friends to reflect on our activities over the last year, and to review our future plans. Jane Fletcher stood down as a trustee at the AGM and a presentation was made to Jane in appreciation of her huge contribution over many years – in practical support and fundraising, alongside her valuable expertise and insights as a trustee. We thank Jane sincerely for her many contributions and pray for God's continued blessing in her life.</p> <p>The AGM appointed Max Wilson as a trustee of the charity and we are pleased to welcome Max, a longstanding supporter of Louth Churches for Refugees, in this new capacity.</p> <p>During the year we have been delighted to receive several new offers of volunteer support for our work into the future. We have also welcomed a number of new regular donors/gift aiders supporting the charity with monthly payments.</p> <p>The World Day of Migrants and Refugees was marked by the Roman Catholic Church in October 2025, with the theme "Migrants - Missionaries of Hope". Through the work of Louth Churches for Refugees – alongside many other groups and charities locally and globally – we have the opportunity to help build a more hopeful future for those who have had to leave their homes, families and belongings because of war, violence or other disasters.</p> <p>We appreciate all offers of help; contact can be made via our website at https://louthchurchesforrefugees.org/about-us/contact-us. You may also like to follow us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/louthchurchesforrefugees</p>
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Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	During 2025 the charity continued to raise funds towards its stated objectives. Income exceeded expenditure during the year, as we focussed on securing the funds required to support a third family.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	The charity does not hold significant reserves, with all monies held being required for its immediate charitable work. This is reviewed periodically by the trustees.
Details of fund materially in deficit	None
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	None

Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document	Constitution
How is the charity constituted?	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
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	Election by members (up to 6 trustees) Nomination by Churches Together in Louth & District (up to 2 trustees)

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Louth Churches for Refugees
Other name the charity uses	None
Registered charity number	1177536
Charity's principal address	Deanery Office The Rectory Peppin Lane Fotherby Louth LN11 0UW


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	Jane Fletcher		Until 29.4.25	Elected by members
2	Ros Malyon			Elected by members
3	Julie Markham			Elected by members
4	Bryan Utteridge			Elected by members
5	Max Wilson		From 29.4.25	Elected by members
6	Andrew West			Elected by members

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)	Andrew West	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Trustee	
Date	20 January 2026	

The Treasurer
Louth Churches for Refugees
The Rectory
Peppin Lane
Fotherby
Louth
Lincolnshire
LN11 0UW

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Louth Churches for Refugees

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Louth Churches for Refugees (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Charity, 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 Charity's accounts 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 accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matter 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.



Keith May ACMA CGMA
Qualified member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants
Keith May Accounting Services Ltd
Aura Business Centre
Heath Road
Skegness
Lincolnshire
PE25 3SJ

23 March 2026

Louth Churches for Refugees		1177536		CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period	01/01/2025	To	31/12/2025	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
		-	-	-	-
Donations	5,215	-	-	5,215	-
Other Income	214	-	-	214	-
Gift Aid	905	-	-	905	-
		-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	6,334	-	-	6,334	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	6,334	-	-	6,334	-
A3 Payments					
Family support	616	-	-	616	-
Other Charitable Expenditure	912	-	-	912	-
		-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	1,528	-	-	1,528	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases,					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	1,528	-	-	1,528	-
t of receipts/(payments)	4,806	-	-	4,806	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year ended	16,724	-	-	16,724	-
Cash funds this year ended	21,530	-	-	21,530	-