

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

UNAUDITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

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SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

Trustees

Rev A Oakley, Chair
C Arnold (appointed 10 September 2024)
M Glass (resigned 18 March 2025)
Rev D Harding
T Lloyd
Rev A D McGougan
Rev R Porter (appointed 1 September 2023)
Rev L Sanders
P M Scott
Rev C J Wood-Archer

Charity registered number

1206421

Principal office

Doxford Place Methodist Church
Doxford Place
Cramlington
Northumberland
NE23 6DY

Accountants

Kinnair Associates Limited
Chartered Accountants
Aston House
Redburn Road
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE5 1NB

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

The Trustees present their annual report together with the independently examined financial statements of the South East Northumberland Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2025. This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and the relevant version of the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Organisational structure

The Circuit was re-established on 1 September 2023 following the dissolution of the South East Northumberland Ecumenical Area, which had been formed in 2004 through the merger of Methodist Circuits 20/6 (South East Northumberland) and 20/7 (Morpeth), along with five churches from the Newcastle and Northumberland Districts of the United Reformed Church (URC).

The Circuit is governed by the Deed of Union (1932) and the Methodist Church Act 1976 as amended in March 2011. Overall control of the Circuit rests with the Methodist Conference. The Connexional Office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of ministers in individual Circuits. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate Officers of the District for regional implementation. The District passes the control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Ministers, ministerial staff and Circuit Stewards via the medium of the Circuit Meeting.

The appointment of the managing trustees is determined in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church.

The Charity's Trustees are the Superintendent Minister and members of the Circuit Meeting. This body meets two to three times a year with representatives from all churches in the Circuit.

The Circuit's daily management is handled by the Circuit Stewards and the church ministers, who meet every two months. The training of new circuit stewards is facilitated with the assistance of current circuit stewards.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given consideration to general guidance published by the charities commission relating to public benefit.

Legal and administrative information

The governing bodies of the Circuit is the Annual Conference of the Methodist Church. The Methodist Church Act 1976 gives the authority under which the Methodist Church acts. The constitutional practice and discipline of the Methodist Church govern the activities of the Circuit, including the setting of ministerial stipends.

Following the dissolution of the Ecumenical Area, the South East Northumberland Circuit is now registered with the Charity Commission (Charity Number 1206421).

Objectives and activities

The Circuit is constituted to advance the effective deployment of the resources of ministry, which include people, property and finance, as they relate to the Methodist Church in the Circuit, to churches of other denominations and to participation in the life of the communities served by the Circuit and in ecumenical work in the Circuit.

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Activities for achieving objectives

Throughout the year, representatives from the Circuit have attended the local Methodist Synod to stay updated on the current situation within the denomination.

Each church within the Circuit has representatives on the Circuit meeting based on their membership. The Circuit meeting meets two or three times a year to deal with the business of the Circuit and that required by the Methodist governing body. The circuit stewards and circuit ministers meet as a Circuit Leadership Team regularly for mutual support, training and to deal with any issues that arise between the Circuit meetings.

With regards to worship, we currently have one local preacher in training, and we continue to seek out and nurture those people who may be able to follow that calling.

Following the cessation of worship at Seghill Methodist Church the property is being disposed of as per the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes' requirements. The anticipated completion of the sale is likely to take place in the 2025-26 connexional year. The congregation at Hauxley Methodist Church ceased worship at Easter 2025. The building in which the congregation met is not Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes property and has been returned to the care of the original owners.

The Circuit continues to think about Vision for the future especially considering its recent reconstitution, reducing congregation numbers & reducing income. Staff, local preachers, and worship leaders meet quarterly for support and training. In addition, staff meet weekly online via video conferencing for mutual support and take counsel together respecting the affairs of the Circuit; to confer, encourage and be accountable.

Review of Progress and Achievements

The Circuit continues to explore its calling to mission and ministry. The staff continue to explore new opportunities for mission and ministry, leading to growth in parts of the Circuit. The circuit leadership team has reduced in number over the year, but we are actively looking to recruit replacements.

Plans for the Future

Several congregations within the South East Northumberland Circuit have noted an increase in attendance on Sundays, while others have observed a continued decrease in worshipping numbers. Midweek services are consistently reporting growth as habits in worship attendance change. With changes in ministry in the future the Circuit leadership team are updating the Circuit mission plan & vision for the future.

Financial Review

Excluding the transfer of £1,301,581 of funds from the South East Northumberland Ecumenical Area in the year ended 31st August 2024 there was a deficit on the net movement in unrestricted funds for 2024 of £290,357 which included a profit on disposal of land at Seghill and Ashington Manse amounting to £157,705. This compares to a comparable deficit in the year ended 31st August 2025 of £53,626. The deficits arose after charging depreciation of £9,395 (2024: £9,395). No grants were provided to churches in either year.

The Circuit's main source of income is from the churches within the Circuit's boundary and the risk of future decline in that income is associated with reducing church membership and hence the ability of churches to maintain their contribution to the Circuit. Trustees will have to constantly monitor this risk and as in the past adjust staffing levels to meet available funding.

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Circuit 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. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

Other Activities

Trustees & Governance

The Charity Trustees (members of the Circuit Meeting including ministerial staff and individual Church representatives) who have served during the year and since the year end are set out in the reference and administrative details of the charity.

The principal address of the Circuit's Independent Examiners who were reappointed during the year, and bankers are also set out in the reference and administrative details of the charity.

The Trustees are responsible for the detailed examination of the Financial Statements and for recommending their adoption by the Circuit meeting.

The Circuit comprises of fifteen churches. They are contactable via the principal address of the Circuit.

Funds are transferred to the Circuit on either a monthly or quarterly basis to meet the commitments to the Methodist District for the upkeep of the Circuit.

Internal financial controls

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that there is in place an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise, to provide reasonable confidence and assurance that:

- the Circuit's administration is operating effectively and efficiently
- the assets of the Circuit are properly safeguarded against unauthorised loss or damages
- proper records are maintained and information produced for management control, fiscal and statutory reasons
- the Circuit complies with the relevant laws and guidelines.

Investment policy

Surplus funds of the Circuit are held in a Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (CFB) deposit account. The Circuit Advance Fund is administered by the Trustees for Methodist Church purposes.

The policies and procedures adopted by the CFB are agreed by Conference.

Reserves policy

The reserves policy for the Circuit agreed by the Trustees is to hold the unrestricted reserves, excluding fixed assets, equivalent of the relevant annual expenditure plus an estimate of any known likely fluctuations this would amount to approximately £450,000.

Total reserves amount to £1,409,971 (2024: £1,456,876) of which £836,142 (2024: £845,537) relates to property. The remaining reserves comprise unrestricted £121,456 (2024: £165,687) and restricted £452,373 (2024: £445,652). The unrestricted reserves are therefore below the policy level and have deteriorated further during the year. It is unlikely that the position will improve in the future. The restricted reserves are available for property repairs and to support wage costs throughout the Circuit.

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Risk management

The Circuit's risk management policy is designed to identify and analyse operational and other risks and ensure that it is controlled, monitored and steps taken to mitigate the risks. The Trustees have examined the main risks and are satisfied that proper controls are in place for monitoring and mitigating these risks. The main risks the Circuit faces can be categorised as follows:

1. Strategic and Reputational Risks
2. Financial Risks
3. Compliance Risk
4. Operational Risks.

The Trustees will monitor these risks and report regularly to the co ordinating group.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees 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).


The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS102);
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees on 17 March 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

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Rev A Oakley
(Chair of Trustees)

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of South East Northumberland Methodist Circuit ('the Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 August 2025.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 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 the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Charity'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.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the Charity has prepared the accounts in accordance with 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) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 2011 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.

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

This report is made solely to the Charity'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 Charity'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 Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: 8228AFA7794A4DC...

Dated: 31 March 2026

Detlev Anderson FCA

Kinnair Associates Limited
Chartered Accountants
Aston House
Redburn Road
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE5 1NB

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

	Note	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	-	254,000	254,000	1,778,323
Investments	4	17,092	18,479	35,571	16,877
Other income	5	-	709	709	157,915
Total income		17,092	273,188	290,280	1,953,115
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	7	10,074	327,114	337,188	496,375
Total expenditure		10,074	327,114	337,188	496,375
Net income/(expenditure) before net gains on investments		7,018	(53,926)	(46,908)	1,456,740
Net gains on investments		3	-	3	136
Net income/(expenditure)		7,021	(53,926)	(46,905)	1,456,876
Transfers between funds	17	(300)	300	-	-
Net movement in funds		6,721	(53,626)	(46,905)	1,456,876
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		445,652	1,011,224	1,456,876	-
Net movement in funds		6,721	(53,626)	(46,905)	1,456,876
Total funds carried forward		452,373	957,598	1,409,971	1,456,876

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

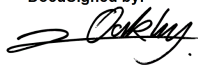
The notes on pages 10 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025**

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	836,142	845,537
		<u>836,142</u>	<u>845,537</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	13	24,409	203,714
Investments	14	214,998	235,375
Cash at bank and in hand		342,752	178,843
		<u>582,159</u>	<u>617,932</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(8,330)	(6,593)
		<u>573,829</u>	<u>611,339</u>
Net current assets			611,339
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,409,971</u>	<u>1,456,876</u>
Net assets excluding pension asset		<u>1,409,971</u>	<u>1,456,876</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>1,409,971</u></u>	<u><u>1,456,876</u></u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	17	452,373	445,652
Unrestricted funds	17	957,598	1,011,224
Total funds		<u><u>1,409,971</u></u>	<u><u>1,456,876</u></u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 17 March 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

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Rev A Oakley

The notes on pages 10 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

1. General information

South East Northumberland Methodist Church is a registered charity (number 1206421). The address of the principal office is Doxford Place Methodist Church, Doxford Place, Northumberland, NE23 6DY.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Charities SORP (FRS 102) published in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

South East Northumberland Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The accounts are presented in sterling and rounded to the nearest pound.

2.2 Going concern

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.

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Voluntary income is received by way of assessment income, donations, contributions and legacies and by receipt of grants.

Donations, contributions and legacies are accounted for on a receivable basis. In accordance with this policy, legacies are included when advice has been received from the personal representative of an estate that payment will be made or property transferred and the amount involved can be quantified.

Incoming grants are accounted on a receivable basis. Expended grants are accounted on a payable basis. Grants payable are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when approved. The value of such grants unpaid at the end of the year is accrued.

The Circuits's policy with regard to grants is to support those churches which are in need of capital renewal (via the Circuit advance fund).

Investment income and interest and other income are accounted on an accruals basis.

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Income (continued)

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, 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 classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management carried out at Headquarters.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Government grants

Government grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the Statement of Financial Activities upon the completion of the relevant performance-related conditions. Other grants that are not subject to performance-related conditions are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities as the grant proceeds are received. Grants received prior to the revenue recognition criteria being satisfied are recognised as a liability.

2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are stated at the net book value on the date of transfer from the South East Northumberland Ecumenical Area on 1st September 2023.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives. .

Depreciation is charged on the following bases:

Freehold property	- Depreciation is charged at 1% per annum of the original cost of the assets transferred on 1st September 2023 plus any additions.
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SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Investments

Current asset investments are stated at market value less any provision for permanent diminution in value.

Realised and unrealised capital gains and losses on investments are dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they arise, based on the brought forward valuations or cost of subsequent additions.

2.8 Debtors

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

2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in 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.

2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

2.11 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.

2.12 Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charity to the fund in respect of the year.

2.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.13 Fund accounting (continued)

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Donations	-	4,000	4,000
Grants - assessments	-	250,000	250,000
Total 2025	-	254,000	254,000

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Donations			
Funds transferred from South East Northumberland Ecumenical Area	183,664	1,301,581	1,485,245
Other donations	-	4,000	4,000
Subtotal detailed disclosure	183,664	1,305,581	1,489,245
Grants - assessments	-	286,878	286,878
Government grants - Ukraine family assistance	2,200	-	2,200
Subtotal	2,200	286,878	289,078
Total 2024	185,864	1,592,459	1,778,323

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

4. Investment income

	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Rental income	-	10,800	10,800
Income from current asset investments and cash at bank	17,092	7,679	24,771
	<u>17,092</u>	<u>18,479</u>	<u>35,571</u>

	<i>Restricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Rental income	-	4,500	4,500
Income from current asset investments and cash at bank	9,240	3,137	12,377
	<u>9,240</u>	<u>7,637</u>	<u>16,877</u>

5. Other incoming resources

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Other incoming resources	709	709

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Other incoming resources	210	210
Gain on disposal of land and properties	157,705	157,705
	<u>157,915</u>	<u>157,915</u>

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

6. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Institutions 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
URC Assessment	28,959	28,959
Payments to the Methodist District	74,854	74,854
	103,813	103,813
	Grants to Institutions 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
URC Assessment	43,057	43,057
Payments to the Methodist District	74,358	74,358
	117,415	117,415

7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Support activities	10,074	223,301	233,375
URC Assessment	-	28,959	28,959
Payments to the Methodist District	-	74,854	74,854
	10,074	327,114	337,188

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities (continued)

Summary by fund type (continued)

	<i>Restricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total 2024 £</i>
Support activities	100,675	278,285	378,960
URC Assessment	-	43,057	43,057
Payments to the Methodist District	-	74,358	74,358
	<u>100,675</u>	<u>395,700</u>	<u>496,375</u>

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Grant funding of activities 2025 £	Support costs 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Support activities	-	233,375	233,375
URC Assessment	28,959	-	28,959
Payments to the Methodist District	74,854	-	74,854
	<u>103,813</u>	<u>233,375</u>	<u>337,188</u>

	<i>Grant funding of activities 2024 £</i>	<i>Support costs 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Support activities	-	378,960	378,960
URC Assessment	43,057	-	43,057
Payments to the Methodist District	74,358	-	74,358
	<u>117,415</u>	<u>378,960</u>	<u>496,375</u>

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2025 £	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Staff costs	148,468	154,042
Depreciation	9,395	9,395
Travel and expenses	10,235	11,611
Telephone	3,246	3,059
Printing and stationery	1,764	1,457
Repairs and furnishings	18,795	8,788
Council Tax and water rates	11,650	13,468
Insurance	7,342	6,763
Donation	-	500
Sundries	11,420	2,930
Levy on sale of property	-	96,621
Legal and professional costs	1,009	-
Governance costs	7,831	8,154
Quinquennial	-	2,820
Bank charges	75	81
Heat and light	2,105	4,023
Ukraine family support expenditure	40	1,251
Donation to URC	-	53,997
	233,375	378,960

9. Independent examiner's remuneration

	2025 £	<i>2024 £</i>
Fees payable to the Charity's independent examiner for the independent examination of the Charity's annual accounts	2,310	2,675

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

10. Staff costs

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	114,666	122,407
Social security costs	12,149	10,194
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	21,653	21,441
	148,468	154,042

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was as follows:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Employees	4	4

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

The Trust's key management personnel are those persons having authority or responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity to whom the Trustees have delegated significant authority in the day-to-day running of the charity. The key management personnel include the Ecumenical Area's four Methodist ministers who received remuneration and benefits (including employer's NI and pension contributions) of £145,422 in the year (2024: £141,765), together with the two United Reformed Church ministers, who are employed by the United Reformed Church and so are not remunerated by the Trust.

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2024 - £NIL).

Rev. A Oakley, Rev. C J Wood-Archer Rev. D Harding and Rev. R Porter, Trustees of South East Northumberland Methodist Circuit, received salary payments totalling £145,422 (2024: £141,765) (including employer's pension contributions) for their work as Methodist ministers. They also were reimbursed expenses totalling £8,735 (2024: £7,276) for provision of services as ministers. Rev. A D McGougan received reimbursed expenses totalling £2,490 (2024: £2,769) for provision of services as a minister but is employed by the United Reformed Church (see note 10 above).

During the year ended 31 August 2025, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2024 - £NIL).

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 September 2024	854,932
At 31 August 2025	854,932
Depreciation	
At 1 September 2024	9,395
Charge for the year	9,395
At 31 August 2025	18,790
Net book value	
At 31 August 2025	836,142
At 31 August 2024	845,537

13. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Due within one year		
Other debtors	-	183,332
Prepayments and accrued income	17,486	15,811
Grants receivable	6,923	4,571
	24,409	203,714

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

14. Current asset investments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Listed investments	1,899	1,896
Unlisted investments (liquid)	213,099	233,479
	<u>214,998</u>	<u>235,375</u>

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	580	3,383
Accruals and deferred income	7,750	3,210
	<u>8,330</u>	<u>6,593</u>

16. Financial instruments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure	<u>557,750</u>	<u>414,218</u>

Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure comprise bank balances and current investments.

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

17. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	1,011,224	273,188	(327,114)	300	-	957,598
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Restricted funds						
Circuit Advance Fund	422,238	17,092	(10,034)	(300)	3	428,999
Property Maintenance Fund	20,170	-	-	-	-	20,170
Ukraine family assistance	3,244	-	(40)	-	-	3,204
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	445,652	17,092	(10,074)	(300)	3	452,373
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total of funds	1,456,876	290,280	(337,188)	-	3	1,409,971
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

17. Statement of funds (continued)

Circuit Advance Fund

The Circuit Advance Fund represents funds arising from the sale or other disposition of land which is Circuit property. The authority to sanction schemes for the application of capital money in the fund rests with the Circuit meeting, subject to approval by the Synod.

Property Maintenance Fund

The funds are available to be used for the maintenance of the Ecumenical Circuit's properties.

Ukraine family assistance

The "Ukraine Family Assistance" fund was set up to support a Ukrainian family hosted in the vacant Amble manse under the government scheme from December 2022. It was funded by donations from local individuals and organisations, and by monthly Government payments.

Statement of funds - prior year

	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Balance at</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>in/out</i>	<i>31 August</i>
			<i>£</i>	<i>2024</i>
				<i>£</i>
Unrestricted funds				
General Funds	1,758,011	(395,700)	(351,087)	1,011,224
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Restricted funds				
Circuit Advance Fund	160,580	(99,424)	361,082	422,238
Property Maintenance Fund	30,165	-	(9,995)	20,170
Ukraine family assistance	4,495	(1,251)	-	3,244
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	195,240	(100,675)	351,087	445,652
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total of funds	<hr/> <hr/> 1,953,251	<hr/> <hr/> (496,375)	<hr/> <hr/> -	<hr/> <hr/> 1,456,876

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

18. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
General funds	1,011,224	273,188	(327,114)	300	-	957,598
Restricted funds	445,652	17,092	(10,074)	(300)	3	452,373
	<u>1,456,876</u>	<u>290,280</u>	<u>(337,188)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1,409,971</u>

Summary of funds - prior year

	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
General funds	1,758,011	(395,700)	(351,087)	1,011,224
Restricted funds	195,240	(100,675)	351,087	445,652
	<u>1,953,251</u>	<u>(496,375)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,456,876</u>

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	836,142	836,142
Current assets	452,373	129,786	582,159
Creditors due within one year	-	(8,330)	(8,330)
Total	<u>452,373</u>	<u>957,598</u>	<u>1,409,971</u>

SOUTH EAST NORTHUMBERLAND METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

19. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	<i>Restricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	-	845,537	845,537
Current assets	445,652	172,280	617,932
Creditors due within one year	-	(6,593)	(6,593)
Total	445,652	1,011,224	1,456,876

20. Pension commitments

"The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the group in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the group to the fund and amounted to £21,653 (2024: £21,441).

21. Related party transactions

The related parties to the Circuit are the Methodist Churches of Alnmouth, Amble, Bedlington Colliery, Blyth Central, Cowpen, Cramlington – Doxford Place, Cramlington – Welcome, Hauxley (closed May 2025), Morpeth, Pegswood, Stakeford and Widdrington, together with the Local Ecumenical Partnerships of the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church in Ashington, Bedlington, Newbiggin-by-the-Sea and Seaton Delaval. Each church contributes grants referred to as "Assessments" as agreed with the Circuit Treasurer and funds are contributed either monthly or quarterly.

The Ecumenical Circuit, on occasion, provides grants to churches within the Circuits to fund exceptional repair costs.

22. Post balance sheet events

In September 2025 the Circuit sold Seghill Methodist Church with a net gain on sale of £142,349 before paying an associated levy on sale of £32,940 to the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes.

23. Controlling party

The Circuit is governed by the Deed of Union (1932) and the Methodist Church Act 1976 as amended March 2011. Overall control of the Circuit rests with the Methodist Conference.