

**THE RIVER CHURCH NEWCASTLE
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD 15 AUGUST 2024 TO 31 AUGUST 2025**

The River Church Newcastle
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The River Church Newcastle
Reference and Administrative Details
For the Period 15 August 2024 to 31 August 2025

Trustees	Ms K E Pollard
	Mr A D Finch
	Mr J E Lythgoe
Charity Number	1209601
Principal Address	9 St. Aidans Road
	Wallsend
	NE28 8QG
Independent Examiner	Mai L C Mak BSc. Hons. FCA, Chartered Accountant
	Kinnair & Company Ltd
	Chartered Accountants
	Aston House
	Redburn Road
	Newcastle upon Tyne
	NE5 1NB

The River Church Newcastle

Trustees' Report For the Period 15 August 2024 to 31 August 2025

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the period ended 31 August 2025.

Objectives and Activities

Aims and Objectives

The River Church seeks to be a gospel community for Newcastle and the North East. In summer 2020, a small team from Grace Church Nottingham relocated to Newcastle to begin meeting, praying and worshipping together as this new gospel community. 2024 was a significant year for us, when we appointed trustees and became a registered charity (prior to this we had been operating as a branch of Grace Church Nottingham). During this period, we also moved venues to meet in Ouseburn. Having extra space on Sundays allowed us to develop our children's work provision further, making us better able to serve our community both now and in future. We also located and secured our next venue in Sandyford, and made plans to meet there long-term, beginning in September 2025.

Public Benefit

Sunday meetings

Our Sunday meetings are our main focus each week and they continued to grow through 2024/25. Over the course of the year we met together regularly, gathering the church family to join in joyful worship and engage with the preaching of the Bible. There is a strong sense of community amongst the members of the church which means the time after our meeting is always rich in conversation, prayer and fellowship. The growth of our Sunday meeting over the course of this year was steady, increasing to an average congregation size of 20 adults and 6 under-18s.

Midweek groups

As well as our Sunday morning meeting, we also ran home groups on midweek evenings, during the year 2024/25. These groups served the people in the church community, providing meals, a sense of fellowship, and a space to pray and worship together. The members in these small groups help to support each other practically and spiritually, fulfilling our purpose to be a gospel community. For a time, we also ran a weekly prayer meeting via Zoom, to pray for the benefit of our city, region, and nation.

Weekend Away

In June 2025, we facilitated our first church weekend away in North Yorkshire and were so pleased to have almost the whole church membership in attendance, as well as guests from another church in our Grace Connection family.

Other Events

In addition to our weekly meetings, we also hosted one-off events, open to church members and anyone wishing to explore faith or find community. These events included carol singing (raising funds for Streetworx charity), a carol service for families and group walks at the coast and in country parks. We also hosted Bible studies, a Good Friday reflective service and attended day conferences as part of the Grace Connection network, all of which helped our church members to grow in their faith.

Mobilising our community for serving

As a church, we encourage everyone in our church community to serve regularly, and in 2024/25 we estimate a total of 1,000 volunteer hours of service from around 20 volunteers was given on Sundays alone. It is only through the sacrificial service of our church family that we are able to run our Sunday meetings, which exist to serve the people of Newcastle, being open to any member of the public wishing to explore faith.

Staff & Volunteers

Our staff team continues to equip and release our church to pursue our mission together. At the end of 2024/25, our paid staff team remains at two employees. Additionally, during the year in review, we had three volunteer staff members working at least a day per week. During July and August 2025, the two employees were advised to take a sabbatical, having spent 5 years in ministry at The River Church. Both employees returned to work in September 2025, refreshed from their time away.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

**The River Church Newcastle
Trustees' Report (continued)
For the Period 15 August 2024 to 31 August 2025**

Financial Review

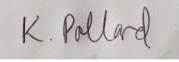
Financial Position

All of our income comes from member donations (and subsequent Gift Aid) and we have a consistent number of donors contributing sizeable monthly amounts. Our annual income for 2024/25 in our general fund was over £70,000. At the year end, the charity held unrestricted cash of £8,645.50 which was below the ideal reserves level.

Reserves Policy

The trustees determined that the charity should aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £10,000. This equates to roughly 3 months of budgeted expenditure so that the charity can continue to operate should income and/or expenditure vary adversely. For 2025/26, therefore, the trustees set a conservative budget, in order to increase the bank balance and try to meet the £10,000 reserves target. Overall, we ended the year in a good financial position to continue to pursue our strategic plans for 2025/26.

The trustees' report was approved by the board of trustees and signed on its behalf by:

Signed by:

6E36EAF861734790...---

Ms K E Pollard

Trustee
Date 29-Jun-2026

The River Church Newcastle
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The River Church Newcastle
For the Period 15 August 2024 to 31 August 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The River Church Newcastle (the Charity) for the period ended 31 August 2025.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity 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").

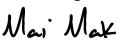
I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and contents 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.

DocuSigned by:

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Mai L C Mak BSc. Hons. FCA, Chartered Accountant
Date 29-Jun-2026
Aston House
Redburn Road
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE5 1NB

The River Church Newcastle
Statement of Financial Activities
For the Period 15 August 2024 to 31 August 2025

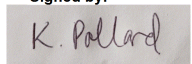
		31 August 2025
		Unrestricted funds
	Notes	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:		
Donations and legacies	3	69,095
Charitable activities:		
Weekends away		1,969
Grants		500
Investments	4	22
		71,586
EXPENDITURE ON:		
Raising funds	5	(45,249)
Charitable activities:	5	
Weekends away		(3,524)
Sundays		(12,941)
Grants		(500)
		(62,214)
NET INCOME		9,372
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		9,372
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:		
Total funds brought forward		-
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	15	9,372

The notes on pages 7 to 11 form part of these financial statements.

The River Church Newcastle
Statement of Financial Position
As At 31 August 2025

		31 August 2025
		Unrestricted funds
	Notes	£
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible Assets	11	603
		603
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	12	1,565
Cash at bank and in hand		8,646
		10,211
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	13	(1,442)
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)		8,769
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		9,372
NET ASSETS		9,372
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY		
Unrestricted Funds		9,372
TOTAL FUNDS	15	9,372

On behalf of the board

Signed by:

-----6E38FAF86173470-----

Ms K E Pollard
Trustee
Date 29-Jun-2026

The notes on pages 7 to 11 form part of these financial statements.

The River Church Newcastle

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Period 15 August 2024 to 31 August 2025

1. General Information

The River Church Newcastle is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission, registered charity number 1209601. The principal address is 9 St. Aidans Road, Wallsend, NE28 8QG.

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)", Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

2.2. Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2.3. Incoming Resources

Voluntary income is recognised in the financial statements when it is received, or on an accruals basis where it can be assured with reasonable certainty and is receivable by the balance sheet date. Income tax recoverable on voluntary donations is recognised in the financial statements when it is receivable from HM Revenue and Customs.

All other incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities on a cash received basis or on an accruals basis where they are assured with reasonable certainty and receivable by the balance sheet date.

2.4. Resources Expended

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to the expenditure, it is probable that settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to the particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resource.

All resources expended is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5. Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of the fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Computer Equipment	3 year straight line
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2.6. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are basic financial assets and include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and are readily convertible to a known amount of cash with insignificant risk of change in value, and bank overdrafts.

2.7. Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax as all its income is charitable and applied for charitable purposes.

The River Church Newcastle
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For the Period 15 August 2024 to 31 August 2025

3. Income from Donations and Legacies

	31 August 2025
	Unrestricted funds
	£
Donations and gifts	59,153
Gift aid	9,942
	<u>69,095</u>

4. Investment Income

	31 August 2025
	Unrestricted funds
	£
Bank interest receivable	22

5. Analysis of Expenditure

	31 August 2025		
	Activities undertaken directly	Grant funding of activities (see note 6)	Support costs (see note 7)
	£	£	£
Raising funds	1,305	-	43,944
Weekends away	3,524	-	-
Sundays	12,941	-	-
Grants	-	500	-
	<u>17,770</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>43,944</u>

6. Grants Payable

	31 August 2025
	Grants to Individuals
	£
Grants	500

The River Church Newcastle
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For the Period 15 August 2024 to 31 August 2025

7. Support Costs

	31 August 2025
	Raising funds
	£
Employee costs	36,360
General administration	6,534
Depreciation	301
Governance costs	749
	43,944

8. Independent Examiner's Remuneration

	31 August 2025
	£
Independent examination of the financial statements	780
Other financial services	156
	936

9. Staff Costs

Staff costs were as follows:

	31 August 2025
	£
Wages and salaries	30,062
Social security costs	3,089
Other pension costs	1,632
	34,783

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000.

10. Average Number of Employees

Average number of employees during the period was: 2

11. Tangible Assets

	Computer Equipment
	£
Cost	
As at 15 August 2024	-
Additions	904
As at 31 August 2025	904

...CONTINUED

The River Church Newcastle
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For the Period 15 August 2024 to 31 August 2025

Depreciation

As at 15 August 2024	-
Provided during the period	301
As at 31 August 2025	301

Net Book Value

As at 31 August 2025	603
As at 15 August 2024	-

12. Debtors

**31 August
2025**

£

Due within one year

Prepayments and accrued income	1,565
--------------------------------	-------

13. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

**31 August
2025**

£

Trade creditors	36
Other taxes and social security	470
Accruals	936
	1,442

14. Pension Commitments

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

During the period the charge to the statement of financial activities in respect of defined contribution schemes was £1,632.

At the statement of financial position date contributions of £163 were due to the fund and are included in creditors.

15. Movement in Funds

	As at 15 August 2024	Income	Expenditure	As at 31 August 2025
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General:				
General unrestricted fund	-	71,586	(62,214)	9,372
Total funds	-	71,586	(62,214)	9,372

The River Church Newcastle
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For the Period 15 August 2024 to 31 August 2025

16. Transactions with Trustees

None of the trustees received any remuneration or any other benefits from an employment with the charity or a related entity during the current year.

During the period the expenses reimbursed to the trustees or paid directly to third parties were as follows:

	31 August 2025
	£
Other Expenses	109

Number of trustees reimbursed for expenses during the period was 1

During the period the trustees made donations to the Charity of £7,700.

17. Related Party Disclosures

Maya Lythgoe

Wife of trustee Joseph Edward Lythgoe

Reimbursed for expenses paid during the year of £204 for general refreshments, consumables and stationery

The River Church Newcastle
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
For the Period 15 August 2024 to 31 August 2025

	31 August 2025
	Total funds
	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:	
Donations and legacies	
Donations and gifts	48,638
Donations from organisations	10,515
Gift aid	9,942
	69,095
Charitable Activities:	
Weekends away	
Income from charitable activities	1,969
	1,969
Grants	
Grants	500
	500
Investments	
Bank interest receivable	22
	22
	71,586
EXPENDITURE ON:	
Raising funds	
Advertising, marketing, direct mail and publicity	(1,305)
Wages and salaries	(30,062)
Employers NI	(3,089)
Employers pensions - defined contributions scheme	(1,632)
Staff training	(655)
Staff expenses	(922)
Computer software costs	(1,965)
Insurance	(185)
Stationery	(380)
Independent examiner's fees	(936)
Charitable donations	(3,067)
Sundry expenses	(1)
Depreciation	(301)
Grace Connection Events	(749)
	(45,249)
Charitable Activities:	
Weekends away	
Other direct costs	(3,524)
	(3,524)
	...CONTINUED

The River Church Newcastle
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities (continued)
For the Period 15 August 2024 to 31 August 2025

Sundays	
Premises costs	(11,369)
Consumable items	(1,572)
	<u>(12,941)</u>
Grants	
Grants to individuals	(500)
	<u>(500)</u>
	<u>(62,214)</u>
NET INCOME	<u><u>9,372</u></u>

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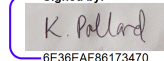
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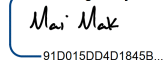
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Timestamp

Editor Delivery Events

Status

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Notary Events

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Envelope Summary Events

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Timestamps

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Security Checked

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