

The Spence Cathedral Choir Trust

Trustee's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

Charity Registration Number: 264558

The Spence Cathedral Choir Trust
for the year end 31 March 2025

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The Spence Cathedral Choir Trust

1.

Administrative information

Constitution

The Trust was founded by the Reverend Canon Horace Spence and his wife Mrs Marjorie Elizabeth Spence in 1968 and augmented by bequests received upon their deaths.

The Dean and Chapter of Canterbury executed a Declaration of Trust on 21 July 1972 and the Trust was registered with the Charity Commission (registration number 264558) on 18 September 1972.

Trustee

The Chapter of Canterbury Cathedral is the sole trustee. Canterbury Cathedral is a registered charity with a registration number of 1206913.

Principal Officers

Ms Julie Wood ACA

Principal Office

Cathedral House
The Precincts
Canterbury
Kent CT1 2EH

Investment Managers

Sarasin Investment Management Limited
Juxon House
100 St Paul's Churchyard
London. EC4M 8BU

Independent Examiner

Mr T. Wachter FCA
Kreston Reeves LLP
37 St Margaret's Street
Canterbury
Kent CT1 2TU

The Spence Cathedral Choir Trust

2.

Trustee's report for the year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustee submits their annual report and the financial statements of The Spence Cathedral Choir Trust (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025. The Trustee confirms that the annual report and financial statements of the charity comply with current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives

The objectives of the charity are the maintenance of the choir of Canterbury Cathedral and its music by the Chapter of Canterbury, including the provision of bursaries or scholarships or financial assistance at in their discretion for the boys and Lay Clerks and other members of the Cathedral choir including the Organist and Assistant Organists to the intent that the music and singing in the Cathedral may be maintained to the standards worthy of the Mother Church of the Anglican Communion.

Policies

The capital of the Trust is invested in any stocks, funds, securities or investments authorised by law. The capital is preserved intact, but any income and interest arising on the capital is paid over to the Chapter of Canterbury each year for them to use in the furtherance of the Objects of the Trust.

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document of the Trust is the Trust Deed.

The Trust is managed by the Chapter of Canterbury, the books of account being maintained by the Cathedral's Finance Department. The Investments are managed by Sarasin and Partners LLP. The performance of the Investments is monitored by the Trustee.

Review of activities and financial performance

The Trust holds investments, the income from which, is paid to the Chapter of Canterbury for use in accordance with the Objects of the Trust. Specialists are employed to manage the investments on behalf of the Trustee. During the year investment income was £60,386 (2024: £55,246). £55,365 was paid to the Chapter of Canterbury (2024: £55,388).

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustee confirms that it has complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit in determining the activities undertaken by the Charity.

Canterbury Cathedral is the mother church of the Anglican Communion. The Cathedral has a strong musical tradition which is enjoyed by a wide range of people at services and also at concerts and recitals. The objects of the charity help to ensure that the musical tradition can continue to be funded and available to as wide an audience as possible and at a world class standard.

In February 2023, the Cathedral announced changes to the music provision for the Cathedral and a new model for the choir which started during the year. New choristers are no longer required to attend or board at St Edmund's School in Canterbury and are being recruited from a broader range of educational backgrounds. Girls and boy choristers are singing an equal number of services at the Cathedral. The Cathedral has started some new musical outreach with local schools.

The Spence Cathedral Choir Trust

Financial Review for the year ended 31 March 2025

Balance Sheet

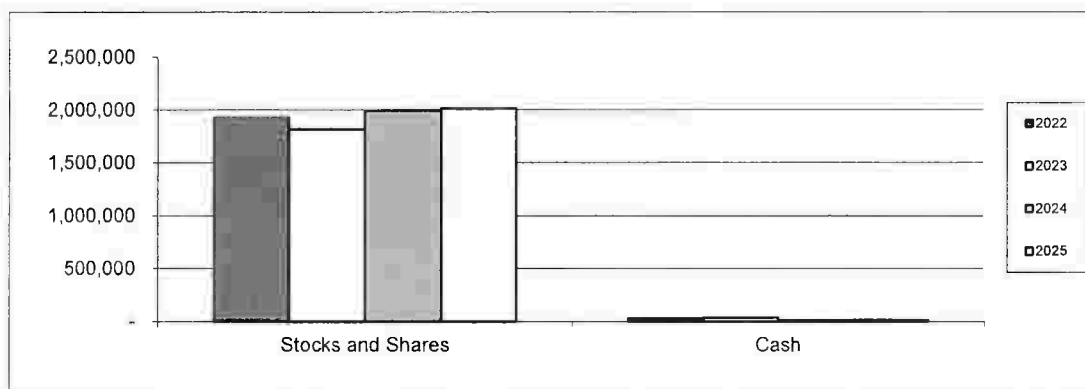
Assets

Fund Value

The net asset value of the fund at 31 March 2025 was £2,027,514 (2024: £2,001,527), an increase of 1.2% on the previous year (2024: 8.1% increase).

The following table illustrates the movement in value and spread of investments at market value over the last four years:

| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Stocks and Shares | 1,932,962 | 1,816,911 | 1,993,445 | 2,014,411 |
| Cash | 29,864 | 34,203 | 8,082 | 13,103 |
| TOTAL FUNDS | 1,962,826 | 1,851,114 | 2,001,527 | 2,027,514 |



The Spence Cathedral Choir Trust

Financial Review for the year ended 31 March 2025

(continued)

Incoming Resources

The return achieved by the investments held by the fund is shown in the table below.

| | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Cash and Investments at Market Value | 2,027,514 | 2,001,527 |
| Investment Income | 60,386 | 55,246 |
| Increase in Market Value of Investments | 20,966 | 150,555 |
| Total Return | 81,352 | 205,801 |
| % Rate of Total Return | 4.01% | 10.28% |

The total return of 4.01% compares with a FTSE all share total return of +10.5% for the year (2024: +10.28% compared with FTSE all share total return of +8.4%).

Reserves policy

The trustee considers that the reserves of the trust are sufficient to meet their present commitments.

Risk management

The trustee has assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the investments and finances of the Trust, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the Trust's exposure to the major risks. The main risk relates to performance of the investments. The risk is mitigated through the appointment of professional investment managers and regular review by the trustee against benchmarks.

Statement of trustee's responsibilities

The trustee is responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual 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 and Wales requires the trustee 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 the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustee is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Spence Cathedral Choir Trust

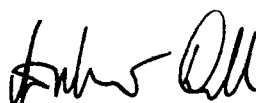
Financial Review for the year ended 31 March 2025

(continued)

Statement of trustee's responsibilities (continued)

The trustee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (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 taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the trustee on 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Andrew Quinn'.

19.09.25

The Dean & Chapter of Canterbury Cathedral

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustee of The Spence Cathedral Choir Trust for the Year ended 31 March 2025.

I report to the charity's Trustee on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 7-10.

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustee, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustee 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 Trustee, for my work or for this report.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustee you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

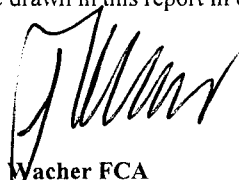
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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
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.



Mr T. B. Wachter FCA
Kreston Reeves LLP
Canterbury

30/9/2025

The Spence Cathedral Choir Trust

7.

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2025

| | Note | Restricted Funds 2025 | Restricted Funds 2024 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | £ | £ |
| Incoming resources | | | |
| Investment income: | | | |
| Income from UK listed investments | | 60,386 | 55,246 |
| Total incoming resources | | 60,386 | 55,246 |
| Resources expended | | | |
| Direct charitable expenditure: | | | |
| Reimbursement to The Chapter of Canterbury of expenditure incurred on objects of the Trust Fund | | 55,365 | 55,388 |
| Total resources expended | | 55,365 | 55,388 |
| Total net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year | | 5,021 | (142) |
| Other recognised gains and losses | 2 | 20,966 | 150,555 |
| Net movement in funds | | 25,987 | 150,413 |
| Balances brought forward | | 2,001,527 | 1,851,114 |
| Balances carried forward | | 2,027,514 | 2,001,527 |

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

All amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 9 to 10 form part of these accounts.

The Spence Cathedral Choir Trust

8.

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

| | | Restricted Funds | Restricted Funds |
|---------------------------|------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | Note | 2025 | 2024 |
| | | £ | £ |
| Fixed Assets | | | |
| Investments | 2 | 2,027,514 | 2,001,527 |
| Net current assets | | - | - |
| Net assets | | <u>2,027,514</u> | <u>2,001,527</u> |
| Funds | 3 | <u>2,027,514</u> | <u>2,001,527</u> |

The financial statements were approved by the Trustee on 2025 and signed on its behalf by:-

 19.09.25

The Dean & Chapter of Canterbury Cathedral

The notes on pages 9 to 10 form part of these accounts

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of the accounts

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention, apart from investments which are included in the accounts at market value.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2 Income

Voluntary income and donations are accounted for as received by the charity.

1.3 Investments

Investments are stated at market value. Realised and unrealised gains and losses on investments are dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities. Investment income and associated tax recoverable are credited to income on an accruals basis.

1.4 Value Added Tax

Value added tax is not recoverable by the charity and as such is included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.5 Expenditure on management and administration of the charity

Administration expenditure includes all expenditure not directly related to the charitable activity.

1.6 Fund accounting

The Spence Cathedral Choir Trust is a restricted fund, which may only be used for the purposes for which the Trust was set up, namely the provision of musical activities as set out in the Trust Deed.

The Spence Cathedral Choir Trust

10.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

2 Investments

| | Total 2025 £ | Total 2024 £ |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Market value brought forward | 1,993,445 | 1,816,911 |
| Additions/(Disposals) | - | 30,000 |
| Fees | - | (4,021) |
| Net realised and unrealised investment gains and (losses) | 20,966 | 150,555 |
| Market value 31 March | 2,014,411 | 1,993,445 |
| Investment cash | 13,103 | 8,082 |
| | <u>2,027,514</u> | <u>2,001,527</u> |
| Analysed as follows: | | |
| UK Unit Trusts | 2,014,411 | 1,993,445 |
| Cash | 13,103 | 8,082 |
| | <u>2,027,514</u> | <u>2,001,527</u> |
| | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
| The historical cost of the investments at 31 March was: | <u>1,043,156</u> | <u>1,043,156</u> |

3 Funds

The fund is a restricted fund, the capital of which is maintained in appropriate investments and the income and interest of which can only be used for the provision of musical activities in Canterbury Cathedral as set out in the Trust deed.

4 Controlling Party

The Trust was set up to assist the Chapter of Canterbury to meet the costs of providing music in the Cathedral. The Trust deed provides that the Chapter of Canterbury is Trustee of the Charity and the Trust was controlled throughout the year by the Chapter of Canterbury.

During the year the Trust paid investment income of £60,386 (2024: £55,388) to the Chapter of Canterbury. No amounts were outstanding at the year end.

5 Trustee's Remuneration.

No remuneration was paid to the trustee nor were any expenses reimbursed to them in the current or prior year.