



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
From	06	04	2023	To	05	04	2024

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name	Dundonald Christian Trust
Other names charity is known by	DCT
Registered charity number (if any)	NI103349
Charity's principal address	26 Ballyregan Road
	Dundonald
	Belfast
	Postcode BT16 1HY

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	Lynn Anderson	Treasurer		
2	Trevor Johnston			
3	Robert Smyth	Chair		
4	William Press			
5	Timothy Anderson	Secretary		
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Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Legal	King & Gowdy	298 Upper Newtownards Rd, Belfast, BT4 3EJ
Accountant	Prior McMahon	104-108 Frances Street, Newtownards, BT23 7OY

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

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Trust Deed
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Trustees are appointed by the existing trustees. Criteria for selecting a trustee requires that the candidate to be in agreement with the objects of the Trust and to understand the necessity of instruction and training in advancing the Christian religion.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

DCT is a small trust with an organisational structure that aims to meet statutory requirements

Each Trustee is required to read 'Running Your Charity' (CCNI) and 'On Becoming a Charity Trustee' published by Small Charity Support. These outline the responsibilities for directing the affairs of a charity and emphasizes the importance of working as a team.

Although DCT works closely with St. Elizabeth's Church Dundonald, there is no formal connection. Other than this, DCT operates independently from any other organisation and does not have any formal relationship with other bodies or parties.

The Trustees recognise that the Trust could experience a variety and range of risks and that these must be assessed, monitored and managed. For example, the risk of an increase in grant applications during a period of economic uncertainty alongside a decrease in income to the Trust. Other risks could be a change in legal requirements; or a failure in structural organisation.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To further the religious and charitable work of St Elizabeth's Church in the Parish of Dundonald Co. Down.

To advance the Christian religion in any part of the world as expressed in the Holy Bible and the 39 Articles of the Church of Ireland.

To advance religious education with the doctrines and principles of the Anglican faith by means of bible classes and otherwise.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and setting the grant making policy for the year.

Each application is assessed to see if it meets the Objectives of the Trust and Public Benefit as identified in the Trust's Public Benefit Statement.

The main activities of the Trust over the last year have been the awarding of grants for a number of purposes;

- To support the work of the Assistant Curate at St Elizabeth's Church Dundonald. Amongst the beneficiaries are young adults from the church, their families, and the surrounding area of Dundonald. The beneficiaries also include people of all ages who were trained in a 10 week course - An Introduction to the Bible. Also amongst the beneficiaries are older members of the church. The public benefit includes the spiritual and moral development of both young and older people.
- To fund the theological training of those selected for Christian ministry. The public benefit includes the teaching of the Bible and Anglican faith by students who complete their training for the moral and spiritual instruction and pastoral care of congregations.
- To fund the training of young people who undertake apprenticeship training in a variety of Christian ministry contexts. The public benefit includes the training of young people for future Christian ministry and the moral and spiritual improvement that comes from the teaching of the Bible and the Anglican faith.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

DCT awards grants to applicants who meet the criteria as described in the objects of the Trust. Grants are approved by a majority decision of the Trustees.

Other criteria include the requirement that an applicant provides all the information requested by the Application Pro forma, including two references.

The Trust does not have any financial investments.

Each Trustee is a volunteer and receives no remuneration for their contribution to the Trust.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Trustees have met once during the last year. As last year only a few grants have been awarded by the Trustees due to low number of applicants. The total sum awarded was £4,000.00. Please note that the amount of unrestricted funds available for grants is actually quite little. However 4 grants were made during the last year. These were for example; the purpose of furthering the religious and charitable work of St Elizabeth Church Dundonald, £2,000.00 to support the work of the Curate, £1,000.00 grant to All Saints Church Belfast towards a ministry apprenticeship, and £1,000 to a ministry apprentice working with students and young people in a church in Strasbourg.

These grants have however, enabled the advancing of the Christian religion through training, education, bible teaching, and apprenticeships.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The reserves policy of the Trust arises from the following criteria.

- Regular planned financial commitments – monthly standing orders and an annual payment to the accountant and to MCC computers for the web hosting service.
- Other financial commitments are grants awarded to applicants throughout the year
- A small contingency fund is required to meet unforeseen operational costs.
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The amount of reserves held should therefore be sufficient to meet these expenditures. The amount of reserve at this year-end is £63,000.00. It should be noted that most of the funds are restricted and that income received from donations during this tax year has been small.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

There are no funds in material deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- Investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The principle source of fund raising is donations from individuals some of which are regular and others intermittent. The Trust has previously received very generous gift. However much of this gift is restricted for specific purposes.

Expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity as grants have been awarded to applicants who meet the objectives of the Trust.

The Trust has not invested any funds. The Trust has a Business account that pays interest.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	R C Smyth	
Full name(s)	Robert Smyth	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	12/08/2024.	