

CASTLEREAGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church In Ireland

Castlereagh Presbyterian Church

a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

***Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended
31st December 2024***

Registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC 104335



CASTLEREAGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2024 including a Balance Sheet as at that date.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Castlereagh Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in
Ireland
79 Church Road
Castlereagh
Belfast
BT6 9SA

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC 104335)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Charity Trustees who served during the year or who were trustees at the date of this report were:

May Anderson
Andrew McCann
Phyllis Grier

Rev. Mervyn Burnside
John Hanna

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Minister
Clerk of Session
Accounts prepared by

Rev. Mervyn Burnside
Andrew McCann
PGR Accountants Ltd, 21 Old Channel Road, BT3 9DE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Jonathan McNeill, ACA, 21 Old Channel Road, Belfast, BT3 9DE

BANKERS

Danske Bank, Donegall Square West, Belfast, BT1 6JS

SOLICITORS

King & Gowdy Ltd, 298 Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3EJ.

CASTLEREAGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (continued) **The General Assembly**

The General Assembly is the supreme court of the Church, representing in one body the whole Church and acting as its supreme legislative, administration and judicial authority, in dealing with all matters brought before it. The General Assembly is normally constituted during the first week in June for worship and to conduct its business. At the end of business it is dissolved. The membership of the General Assembly consists mainly of the active ministers of each congregation, retired ministers and a representative elder appointed by the Kirk Session of each congregation.

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

Castlereagh Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland, as a Reformed Church within the wider body of Christ is grounded in the Scriptures, and exists to love and honour God through faith in His Son and by the power of His Spirit, and to enable her members to play their part in fulfilling God's mission to our world.

The congregation's mission purposes is by the grace of God, to help people of all ages become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ. Our vision is, by the grace of God, to be an inclusive, welcoming community of Christ's people of all ages, which:

- *is increasingly characterised by love for God, and love and concern for others;*
- *is committed to the historic Christian gospel as revealed in the Bible;*
- *is relevant to people of this time and place.*

The congregation aims to live out its Mission and Vision as a family of God's people by being:

- *A Covenant Community: where our relationships are rooted in the promises of God by living faithfully toward him and toward one another*
- *An Intergenerational Community: where adults intentionally take the lead to engage with, encourage and nurture younger members to maturity in Christ.*
- *An Outward looking Community: where we want the blessings of God that belong to us in the gospel to become blessings for others beyond the bounds of our community.*
- *As a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, we believe that the Bible is the supreme authority over all we do, and that the Westminster Confession of Faith, along with the Larger and Shorter Catechisms set out what we understand the Bible teaches on key matters of Christian faith and practice.*

CASTLEREAGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Pastoral care

Members of the congregation who are unable to attend church due to sickness or age are visited on a regular basis by the minister, elders or by one of the congregation's pastoral visitors.

Mission and outreach

The congregation supports the United Appeal for Mission which is a central fund of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This fund enables congregations to support the wider mission of the denomination and to do mission and outreach on denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. The United Appeal Fund provides financial support for mission personnel at home and overseas, assists congregations with the deployment of locally based staff, enables church planting, provides grant support for the upkeep of church premises, assist with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church's training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregations in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

Presbytery

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our minister and/or one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregations and the wider structures of the church.

General Assembly

The minister and one of our elders were nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

Organisations

The congregation supports a number of organisations who actively make use of both the Church and Hall facilities, including Boys' Brigade for children and young adults, Hilltop group for older members of the congregation, Presbyterian Women and more.

Subject to the Approval of Kirk session outside organisations such as Ravara Productions have been able to use the facilities for rehearsal space. Again subject to approval of Kirk Session and availability, various outside groups and individuals have been able to avail of the facilities for various family celebrations.

CASTLEREAGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions including the Weekly Freewill Offering with donations totaling £43k which is included in Donations and Legacies. There were 118 contributors during the year, a similar number to the previous year: donating a total of £58k to the funds.

The total Income of the congregation during the year was £116k, which was lower than the previous year (£125k).

Total expenditure increased from £125k to £138k.

The trustees are content with the financial position of the church and of its funds at 31st December 2024.

RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The Trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the congregations and the financial activities for that year. In preparing the financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- *select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently*
- *make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent*
- *prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Funds will continue in operation.*

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the funds transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the congregations and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS 102 1 January 2019)". They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the congregation and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF CASTLEREAGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

I report on the financial statements of Castlereagh Presbyterian Church (or "the charity") for the financial year ended 31 December 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 as amended by the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 where applicable. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under charity law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 ('the Charities Act') as amended by the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 where applicable;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined the charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

An independent examination does not involve gathering all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently does not cover all the matters that an auditor considers in giving their opinion on the accounts. The planning and conduct of an audit go beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide. Consequently, I express no opinion as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and my report is limited to those specific matters set out in the independent examiner's statement.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me reasonable cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 as amended by the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 where applicable;
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records;
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements or methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102); and
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Mr Jonathan McNeill
For and on behalf of
PGR Chartered Accountants
Unit 2 Channel Wharf
21 Old Channel Road
Belfast, Co. Antrim
BT3 9DE
Date:

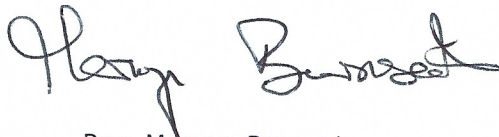
CASTLEREAGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church In Ireland

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2024

	General £	Restricted £	Endowment £	Total Funds 2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets					
10: Tangible assets	—	78,896	—	78,896	83,432
11: Fixed assets Investments	—	587,851	—	587,851	587,851
Total fixed assets	—	666,747	—	666,747	671,283
Current assets					
12: Debtors	8,558	8,148	—	16,706	15,554
13: Current assets Investments	61,409	—	14,503	75,912	72,494
14: Cash at bank and in hand	91,824	46,837	40,642	179,303	196,338
Total current assets	161,791	54,985	55,145	271,921	284,386
15: Creditors: amounts falling due in one year	(2,700)	(10,243)	—	(12,943)	(13,147)
Net current assets less current liabilities	159,091	44,742	55,145	258,978	271,239
16: Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	—	—	—	—	—
Net assets	159,091	711,489	55,145	925,725	942,522
17: Funds of the Church	159,091	711,489	55,145	925,725	942,522

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 1st May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Rev. Mervyn Burnside
Minister



Andrew McCann
Clerk of Session

CASTLEREAGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church In Ireland

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31st December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

INCOMING RESOURCES

(i) Recognition of incoming resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the congregation becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

(ii) Incoming resources with related expenditure

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

(iii) Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the congregation has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

(iv) Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

(v) Contractual income and performance related grants

This is only included in the SoFA once the related goods or services have been delivered.

(vi) Gifts in kind

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.

CASTLEREAGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church In Ireland

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31st December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(xiv) Grants payable without performance conditions

These are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the charity.

ASSETS

(xv) Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £2,500. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is recorded on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

<i>Buildings:</i>	<i>- over 50 years</i>
<i>Fixtures, fittings and equipment</i>	<i>- over 10 years</i>

(xvi) Investments

Investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange are valued at market value at the year end. Other investment assets are included at trustees' best estimate of market value.

(xvii) Investment Property

Investment property will not be subject to depreciation but rather be correctly valued by the fair value movement each year.

CASTLEREAGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church In Ireland

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31st December 2024

8. EMPLOYEES

Employment Costs

	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£
Wages and Salaries		
Minister:	36,995	35,234
Caretaker:	—	—
Social Security Costs	5,006	5,276
Pension Contributions	8,879	8,456
Other ministry and Support Staff	3,542	3,291
	54,422	52,257

Number of Employees

The average number of employees (including the minister of the congregation), during the year was:

	2024	2023
Average number of employees	1	1

There were no employees in receipt of employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

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a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church In Ireland

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31st December 2024

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land & Buildings	Fixtures and Fittings	Total
	£	£	£
Cost or valuation			
At start of year	221,616	27,963	249,579
Additions	—	—	—
Revaluation	—	—	—
At end of year	221,616	27,963	249,579
Depreciation			
At start of year	140,102	26,045	166,147
Provision for year	4,306	230	4,536
Revaluation	—	—	—
At end of year	144,408	26,275	170,683
Net Book Value			
At start of year	81,514	1,918	83,432
At end of year	77,208	1,687	78,895

The land and buildings include freehold properties owned by the Congregation and consist of the Church, Church Halls, Graveyard and the Manse.

As a Grade B+ Historic Building (HB25/13/002) the Church is classified as a Historical Heritage Asset and has been valued at nil, in keeping with the Charities SORP.

The Church property which is used to carry out the activities of the Church includes the Church Hall and the Manse which are being depreciated over their estimated economic life of 50 years.

CASTLEREAGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church In Ireland

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31st December 2024

13. CURRENT ASSET INVESTMENTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
General Investment Fund	75,717	72,299
Other Investments	195	195
	75,912	72,494

	2024	2023
	£	£
Value at start of year	72,494	66,494
Additions	—	—
Transferred	—	—
Impairment	—	—
Gains / (Losses on revaluation)	3,418	6,000
Value at end of year	75,912	72,494

14. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank Current Accounts	85,609	105,338
Bank Deposit Accounts	93,694	91,000
	179,303	196,338

15. CREDITORS: amount falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Creditors	10,243	10,447
Accruals and Deferred Income	2,700	2,700
	12,943	13,147

CASTLEREAGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church In Ireland

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31st December 2024

17. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

One of the Trustees, the minister of the Congregation received remuneration of £36,995 and expenses of £7,036 for acting in that capacity. A pension contribution of £8,879 was paid by the Congregation in respect of the minister to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009). None of the other trustees received any remuneration.

During the year the Congregation contributed the following amounts to Funds of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, a separate charity:

£13,465 for Congregational Assessments
£2,850 towards the United Appeal

The congregation contributed £777 towards Presbytery Assessments during the year.

There were no other related party transactions.