

# The Churches Trust Limited

Northern Ireland · Charity number 105253

## Details

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**Known as** Churches Trust

**Status** Received

**Company number** [27217](#)

**Registered** 2016-05-24

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register](#)

## Contact

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Clooney Chambers  
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BT47 6ju  
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**Website** [www.thechurchestrust.org.uk](http://www.thechurchestrust.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Purposes:** The objects of the company shall be to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the North-West of Ireland without distinction of sex or political, religious or other opinions by associating the local authorities, churches, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to relieve poverty, sickness and distress and to advance education so as to improve the conditions of life for the said inhabitants; and in particular but not so as to limit the generality of the foregoing (i) to operate a free and confidential service of advice, information and counsel to the public regarding their rights under social legislation,; (ii) to refer advice seekers to appropriate statutory or voluntary bodies; (iii) to provide liaison on matters of social need between members of the public and statutory and voluntary bodies; (iv) to operate any other activities devoted to the alleviation of social need for meaningful employment, and to the development of mutual co-operation and social responsibility.

**What the charity does:** The prevention or relief of poverty, The advancement of citizenship or community development

**How the charity works:**

Cross-border/cross-community, Cultural, Education/training, Medical/health/sickness, Relief of

poverty, Welfare/benevolent, Youth development

**Who the charity helps:** Adult training, General public, Older people, Unemployed/low income, Voluntary and community sector, Youth (14-25 year olds)

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£498,079	£544,066	£-62,880	13

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Deacon Marlene Skuce		
Denis MCGowan		
Fr Michael Canny		
John O'kane		
Martin Agnew		
Mr Alan Rowan		
Mr Trevor James Hume		
Mrs Diana Rudd		
Ms Janet Hetherington		
Rev Robert Boyd		

**The Churches Trust Limited**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105253

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# Accounts

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COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NI027217

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NIC105253

**The Churches' Trust Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**31 March 2025**

**DONALDSON & THOMPSON**

Chartered Accountants  
3 Limavady Road  
Londonderry  
BT47 6JU

**The Churches' Trust Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Financial Statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2025**

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# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report)

#### Year ended 31 March 2025

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

#### Reference and administrative details

<b>Registered charity name</b>	The Churches' Trust Limited
<b>Charity registration number</b>	NIC105253
<b>Company registration number</b>	NI027217
<b>Principal office and registered office</b>	11 Limavady Road Waterside Derry/Londonderry BT47 6JU

#### The trustees

Mrs D Rudd - Chair  
Mr M Agnew - Treasurer  
Rev Canon S R Boyd  
Rev Fr M Canny  
Mrs J Hetherington  
Rev C Jones  
Mrs J Miller  
Mr D McGowan  
Mr J O'Kane  
Mr A Rowan  
Mr T Hume  
Deacon M Skuce

#### Member Trustees

Bishop Andrew Forster  
Bishop Donal McKeown  
Rev Stephen Skuce  
Rev Susan Moore

**Chief Executive** Mary Holmes

**Independent examiner** Donaldson & Thompson Chartered Accountants  
3 Limavady Road  
Londonderry  
BT47 6JU



# **The Churches' Trust Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2025**

#### **Structure, governance and management**

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 9th February 1993 and accepted as a charity by HM Revenue & Customs under reference NI01212 and registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland on 24th May 2016 under charity number NIC105253. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being woundup members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £5.

The Directors are appointed by the Member Trustees, the leaders of the Church of Ireland, Methodist Church, Presbyterian Church, and Catholic Church in the North West area. Each Member Trustee appoints one clergy and two lay people to serve as Directors on the Board.

The Directors are responsible for the strategic direction, and the overall management and accountability of the organisation. The Board meet every six to eight weeks. Board membership is diverse in its representation across communities and has a broad skills and expertise base, including financial management, PR, Health & Safety and various community & voluntary sector roles.

The Directors delegate responsibility for day-to-day operations to the Chief Executive and staff team. The Chief Executive provides direct line management for staff employed.

The organisation has developed robust systems and procedures for monitoring and evaluating its work, primarily shaped by the reporting and accountability obligations defined by funding bodies, regulatory organisations and various stakeholders. These systems include mechanisms for ongoing review and evaluation and feed directly into reports to the Board of Directors, which include the following:

- Financial management (including monthly management accounts)
- Performance results against targets
- Stakeholder relationship development
- Regulatory, audit and compliance matters
- Policy and procedure development and approval
- New initiatives
- Human Resource and other organisational matters
- Project / service evaluation and review

Prior to the commencement of the financial year, the board approves a budget that defines the financial parameters and the performance targets for the year. This document is a critical part of the management, monitoring and evaluation of the organisation's performance. The organisation has extensive expertise in managing and claiming grants both of a capital nature and a revenue nature.

#### **Objectives and activities**

The principal activities and objects of the charity as per the company's Memorandum is ' to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the North West of Ireland without distinction of sex or political, religious or other opinions by associating the local authorities, churches, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to relieve poverty, sickness and distress and to advance education so as to improve the conditions of life for the said inhabitants...'



# The Churches' Trust Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

### Objectives and activities *(continued)*

Our Vision is: A cohesive community without discrimination, disadvantage, or division where people from all communities and backgrounds can equally contribute. Our Mission is: Utilise the strength and determination of local communities to identify, challenge and tackle the causes and impact of discrimination, disadvantage and division reflecting an ethos of peace, trust, humility and hope which are central to our Christian values.

Our work is underpinned by a Trauma Informed Approach and an awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences, Adverse Community Environments, and Atrocious Cultural Experiences (ACEs). Having embedded this approach into our work, staff, and service delivery we believe we are leading with transformational approaches to Peace & Reconciliation, and to building stronger, resilient, and more cohesive communities.

Specifically, The Churches' Trust Limited aims are:

- To promote a more united, shared and cohesive society working in collaboration with churches, schools, and community and voluntary sector organisations in the area.
- To develop and provide quality services that tackle deprivation and disadvantage focusing on social inclusion, equality of opportunity, and improving community relations.
- To pro-actively enhance and support the economic, social and cultural development of all our communities within the North West region.

Church leaders acknowledge that deprivation and disadvantage are key barriers to building a united community, equality of opportunity and good relations. They recognise their role in presenting a united voice to help change attitudes and ultimately contribute to moving our community on from conflict to peace. The commitment to addressing issues of social injustice and inequality shapes the main activities of The Churches' Trust Limited.

The Churches' Trust Limited through years of experience and through established networks of churches and schools, understand the challenges facing the communities we support. We are committed to addressing issues of justice and inequality. Our work transcends all communities. In the interests of a shared and better future for all we undertake various projects and activities that bring communities together, and that encourage healing, understanding and respect.

The charity's trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit.

### Achievements and performance

The organisation's activities are shaped by:

- Identifying, challenging and tackling sectarianism and racism through the delivery of good relations and cohesion programmes.
- Recognising the ongoing impact of poverty and disadvantage, supporting people and families in need, tackling social determinants of health inequalities and empowering communities.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

#### Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Our performance and achievements are summarised as follows:

Youth training and development programmes focusing on personal and skills development, improving mental health and wellbeing and enhancing life chances. This includes working with marginalised young people who struggle in formal education structures by providing alternative opportunities through creative pathways, outdoor learning, and personal development programmes.

Developing Women training and support programmes which focus on building self-esteem and confidence, strengthening family supports, and empowering women to take on leadership roles in the community.

Piloting intergenerational and men's training and support that is Trauma Informed enabling transformative approaches in tackling key issues facing men, family and community life including sectarianism, community violence, mental health and wellbeing.

Interfaith, inter-church community education projects which focus on the theme of 'Celebrating Commonality'. These projects aim to build a sense of shared community recognising what we have in common as opposed to focusing on what divides us.

Low level intervention care services for older people across the city and rural areas of the Derry City & Strabane District Council. The service is designed to address isolation and promote independence in the home. On average we provided 620 support hours per month. Services provided include befriending, chaperoning, reminiscing, shopping, domestic duties, dealing with correspondence and appointments.

Care & Repair -Maintenance/Handyperson service provided at low cost, affordable rates targeting Older People, low-income families and individuals in areas of deprivation. The service includes cleaning, decluttering, gardening, power washing, fencing decorating, guttering, grave maintenance - in summary those tasks that are difficult to source from mainstream maintenance services but that significantly enhance the mental health and well-being of those in receipt of the service.

Addressing food poverty - The Pantry Project and Social Supermarket. The Pantry Project foodbank provides a crisis response to people experiencing food poverty.

We work with an established network of over 30 churches and 12 schools generating food donations through community giving.

We work in collaboration with community hubs who work intensively to address the underlying root cause of the crises and signpost people to appropriate services.

During this financial year we provided food for over 7,500 people. We have developed our approach to addressing food poverty through our Social Supermarket, working with people on transformative solutions that move people from food insecurity on to addressing the determinants of food poverty.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

#### Financial review

The results contained within the Statement of Financial Activities disclose a Net deficit for the year of £45,987.


The Churches' Trust Limited continues to broaden its income portfolio by strengthening collaborative working arrangements with partner organisations and other funding agencies. Public funds and grants received through the financial year included The Executive Office, Department for Communities, Community Relations Council, Derry City Strabane Council, Northern Ireland Office, Department of Foreign Affairs (Ireland), Education Authority, and Public Health Agency. We continue to extend our income portfolio by building relationships with charitable trusts and now include Leathersellers, PEACEPLUS, Inner City Trust, SSE Airtricity, Halifax, Garfield Weston Foundation, Benefact Trust, and The Honourable, The Irish Society as supporters of our work.

In January 2024, The Churches' Trust Limited relocated its main administration office from 121 Spencer Road to 11 Limavady Road, Waterside, Derry/Londonderry, BT47 6JU. The decision to move was in response to the need for a modern space from which to operate. Cost of rental was to be offset from income earned from 121 Spencer Road. However, structural damage to the building has delayed progress impacting the deficit reported for the year. It is anticipated income will be generated by end of 2025 once 121 Spencer Road has been refurbished and fully let.

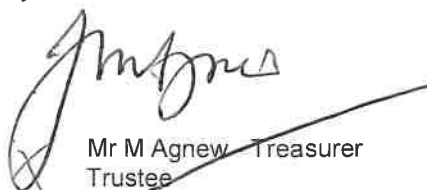
#### Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) was approved on 25 September 2025 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



X Mrs D Rudd - Chair  
Trustee



X Mr M Agnew - Treasurer  
Trustee

# **The Churches' Trust Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Churches' Trust Limited**

#### **Year ended 31 March 2025**

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025, which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position and the related notes.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- to 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
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

I have examined your 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 the trustees concerning any such matters.

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

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Churches' Trust Limited

*(continued)*

**Year ended 31 March 2025**

### 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.

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Chartered Accountants Ireland which is one of the listed bodies.



Donaldson & Thompson  
Chartered Accountants  
Independent Examiner

3 Limavady Road  
Londonderry  
BT47 6JU

25th September 2025

**The Churches' Trust Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**(including income and expenditure account)**

**Year ended 31 March 2025**

	Note	2025		2024
		Unrestricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>				
Donations and legacies	5	16,215	<b>16,215</b>	51,958
Charitable activities	6	475,700	<b>475,700</b>	335,814
Other trading activities	7	1,827	<b>1,827</b>	–
Investment income	8	4,337	<b>4,337</b>	5,708
<b>Total income</b>		<u>498,079</u>	<u><b>498,079</b></u>	<u>393,480</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Expenditure on charitable activities	9,10	544,066	<b>544,066</b>	432,371
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>544,066</u>	<u><b>544,066</b></u>	<u>432,371</u>
<b>Net expenditure and net movement in funds</b>		<u>(45,987)</u>	<u><b>(45,987)</b></u>	<u>(38,891)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		320,313	<b>320,313</b>	359,204
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>274,326</u>	<u><b>274,326</b></u>	<u>320,313</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

**The Churches' Trust Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Position**

**31 March 2025**

	Note	2025 £	£	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	16		152,990	154,890
<b>Current assets</b>				
Stocks	17	371		575
Debtors	18	64,334		55,491
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>119,511</u>		<u>143,803</u>
		<u>184,216</u>		<u>199,869</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	19	<u>62,880</u>		<u>34,446</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>121,336</u>	<u>165,423</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>274,326</u>	<u>320,313</u>
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>274,326</u>	<u>320,313</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>				
Unrestricted funds			<u>274,326</u>	<u>320,313</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	21		<u>274,326</u>	<u>320,313</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The statement of financial position  
continues on the following page.

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

**The Churches' Trust Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Position** *(continued)*

**31 March 2025**

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 25 September 2025, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

*Diana Rudd*

X Mrs D Rudd - Chair  
Trustee

*M Agnew*

X Mr M Agnew - Treasurer  
Trustee

Company registration number: NI027217

The company is a private limited company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland.

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

**The Churches' Trust Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2025**

**1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland and a registered charity in Northern Ireland. The address of the registered office is 11 Limavady Road, Waterside, Derry/Londonderry, BT47 6JU.

**2. Statement of compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

**3. Accounting policies**

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

**Going concern**

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

##### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

##### Tangible assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment loss. Cost includes all costs that are directly attributable to bringing the asset into working condition for its intended use.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2025

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Property improvements	-	5% reducing balance
Motor vehicles	-	25% straight line
Equipment	-	25% straight line

##### Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

##### Stocks

Stocks are measured at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the stock to its present location and condition.

##### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument. Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted. Where investments in shares or preference shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

##### Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2025

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Defined contribution plans *(continued)*

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

#### 4. Limited by guarantee

The Churches' Trust Limited is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required not exceeding £5 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of its being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member.

#### 5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
<b>Donations</b>				
Donations	13,795	<b>13,795</b>	5,076	5,076
Donations - The Pantry Project	2,420	<b>2,420</b>	1,882	1,882
Donations - The Churches' Training Company Ltd	—	—	45,000	45,000
	<u>16,215</u>	<u><b>16,215</b></u>	<u>51,958</u>	<u>51,958</u>

#### 6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Other income from charitable activities	255,102	<b>255,102</b>	158,112	158,112
Department of Foreign Affairs	73,445	<b>73,445</b>	33,180	33,180
Care Services	97,277	<b>97,277</b>	94,532	94,532
Department for Communities	49,876	<b>49,876</b>	49,990	49,990
	<u>475,700</u>	<u><b>475,700</b></u>	<u>335,814</u>	<u>335,814</u>

#### 7. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Employment subsidy	1,827	<b>1,827</b>	—	—

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2025

#### 8. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2025 £</b>	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Bank interest receivable	4,337	<b>4,337</b>	5,708	5,708

#### 9. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2025 £</b>	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Care services	69,038	<b>69,038</b>	82,614	82,614
Other charitable activities	283,250	<b>283,250</b>	184,758	184,758
The Pantry project	1,993	<b>1,993</b>	4,529	4,529
Support costs	189,785	<b>189,785</b>	160,470	160,470
	<u>544,066</u>	<u><b>544,066</b></u>	<u>432,371</u>	<u>432,371</u>

#### 10. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	<b>Total funds 2025 £</b>	Total fund 2024 £
Care services	69,038	36,828	<b>105,866</b>	112,497
Other charitable activities	283,250	86,661	<b>369,911</b>	270,784
The Pantry project	1,993	11,221	<b>13,214</b>	16,392
Governance costs	—	55,075	<b>55,075</b>	32,698
	<u>354,281</u>	<u>189,785</u>	<u><b>544,066</b></u>	<u>432,371</u>

#### 11. Analysis of support costs

	Other Charitable Activities £	<b>Total 2025 £</b>	Total 2024 £
Staff costs	133,475	<b>133,475</b>	125,947
Finance costs	1,280	<b>1,280</b>	1,302
Governance costs	53,793	<b>53,793</b>	31,816
Other costs	1,237	<b>1,237</b>	1,827
	<u>189,785</u>	<u><b>189,785</b></u>	<u>160,892</u>

#### 12. Net expenditure

Net expenditure is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>2025 £</b>	2024 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<b>5,740</b>	5,141

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2025

#### 13. Independent examination fees

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>2,592</u>	<u>2,160</u>

#### 14. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	268,078	250,649
Social security costs	17,291	15,666
Employer contributions to pension plans	5,343	5,182
	<u>290,712</u>	<u>271,497</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 13 (2024: 13). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2025	2024
	No.	No.
Number of staff	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2024: Nil).

#### Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel include all persons that have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity. The total compensation paid to key management personnel for services provided to the charity was £45,204 (2024:£43,572).

#### 15. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2025

#### 16. Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 Apr 2024	149,009	26,548	<b>175,557</b>
Additions	–	3,840	<b>3,840</b>
<b>At 31 Mar 2025</b>	<b>149,009</b>	<b>30,388</b>	<b>179,397</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 Apr 2024	3,994	16,673	<b>20,667</b>
Charge for the year	751	4,989	<b>5,740</b>
<b>At 31 Mar 2025</b>	<b>4,745</b>	<b>21,662</b>	<b>26,407</b>
<b>Carrying amount</b>			
<b>At 31 Mar 2025</b>	<b>144,264</b>	<b>8,726</b>	<b>152,990</b>
At 31 Mar 2024	145,015	9,875	154,890

#### 17. Stocks

	2025 £	2024 £
Foodbank stock	<b>371</b>	<b>575</b>

#### 18. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	<b>11,406</b>	10,257
Prepayments and accrued income	<b>540</b>	–
Grants receivable	<b>50,811</b>	42,024
Other debtors	<b>1,577</b>	3,210
	<b>64,334</b>	<b>55,491</b>

#### 19. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Bank loans and overdrafts	<b>4,992</b>	2,934
Trade creditors	<b>16,745</b>	1,246
Amounts owed to group undertakings	<b>3,991</b>	968
Accruals and deferred income	<b>27,406</b>	10,456
Social security and other taxes	<b>6,752</b>	5,145
Other creditors	<b>2,994</b>	13,697
	<b>62,880</b>	<b>34,446</b>

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2025

#### 20. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

##### Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £5,343 (2024: £5,182).

#### 21. Analysis of charitable funds

##### Unrestricted funds

	At 1 Apr 2024	Income	Expenditure	At 31 Mar 2025
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted fund - General funds	<u>320,313</u>	<u>498,079</u>	<u>(544,066)</u>	<u>274,326</u>

	At 1 Apr 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 Mar 2024
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted fund - General funds	<u>359,204</u>	<u>393,480</u>	<u>(432,371)</u>	<u>320,313</u>

#### 22. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	152,990	<b>152,990</b>
Current assets	184,216	<b>184,216</b>
Creditors less than 1 year	(62,880)	<b>(62,880)</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>274,326</u>	<u>274,326</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	154,891	154,891
Current assets	199,869	199,869
Creditors less than 1 year	(34,447)	(34,447)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>320,313</u>	<u>320,313</u>

**The Churches Trust Limited**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105253

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# Accounts

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COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NI027217  
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NIC105253

**The Churches' Trust Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**31 March 2024**

**DONALDSON & THOMPSON**

Chartered Accountants  
3 Limavady Road  
Londonderry  
BT47 6JU

**The Churches' Trust Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Financial Statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2024**

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Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	<b>8</b>
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# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report)

Year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

#### Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	The Churches' Trust Limited
Charity registration number	NIC105253
Company registration number	NI027217
Principal office and registered office	11 Limavady Road Waterside Derry/Londonderry BT47 6JU

#### The trustees

Mrs D Rudd - Chair	
Mr M Agnew - Treasurer	
Mr B Bell	(Retired 21 September 2023)
Rev Canon S R Boyd	
Rev Fr M Canny	
Mrs J Hetherington	
Rev C Jones	
Mrs J Miller	
Mr D McGowan	
Mr J O'Kane	
Mr A Rowan	
Deacon M Skuce	

#### Member Trustees

Bishop Andrew Forster  
Bishop Donal McKeown  
Rev Stephen Skuce  
Rev Susan Moore

Chief Executive Mary Holmes

Independent examiner Donaldson & Thompson Chartered Accountants  
3 Limavady Road  
Londonderry  
BT47 6JU

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

#### Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 9th February 1993 and accepted as a charity by HM Revenue & Customs under reference NI01212 and registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland on 24th May 2016 under charity number NIC105253. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £5.

The Directors are appointed by the Member Trustees, the leaders of the Church of Ireland, Methodist Church, Presbyterian Church, and Catholic Church in the North West area. Each Member Trustee appoints one clergy and two lay people to serve as Directors on the Board.

The Directors are responsible for the strategic direction, and the overall management and accountability of the organisation. The Board meet every six to eight weeks. Board membership is diverse in its representation across communities and has a broad skills and expertise base, including financial management, PR, Health & Safety and various community & voluntary sector roles.

The Directors delegate responsibility for day-to-day operations to the Chief Executive and staff team. The Chief Executive provides direct line management for staff employed.

The organisation has developed robust systems and procedures for monitoring and evaluating its work, primarily shaped by the reporting and accountability obligations defined by funding bodies, regulatory organisations and various stakeholders. These systems include mechanisms for ongoing review and evaluation and feed directly into reports to the Board of Directors, which include the following:

- Financial management (including monthly management accounts)
- Performance results against targets
- Stakeholder relationship development
- Regulatory, audit and compliance matters
- Policy and procedure development and approval
- New initiatives
- Human Resource and other organisational matters
- Project / service evaluation and review

Prior to the commencement of the financial year, the board approves a budget that defines the financial parameters and the performance targets for the year. This document is a critical part of the management, monitoring and evaluation of the organisation's performance. The organisation has extensive expertise in managing and claiming grants both of a capital nature and a revenue nature.

#### Objectives and activities

The principal activities and objects of the charity as per the company's Memorandum is 'to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the North West of Ireland without distinction of sex or political, religious or other opinions by associating the local authorities, churches, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to relieve poverty, sickness and distress and to advance education so as to improve the conditions of life for the said inhabitants...'

# The Churches' Trust Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

## Objectives and activities *(continued)*

Our Vision is: A cohesive community without discrimination, disadvantage, or division where people from all communities and backgrounds can equally contribute. Our Mission is: Utilise the strength and determination of local communities to identify, challenge and tackle the causes and impact of discrimination, disadvantage and division reflecting an ethos of peace, trust, humility and hope which are central to our Christian values.

Our work is underpinned by a Trauma Informed Approach and an awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences, Adverse Community Environments, and Atrocious Cultural Experiences (ACEs). During the last year we have focused on embedding this approach into our work, our staff training, and our service delivery. We believe that this is a transformational approach to Peace & Reconciliation, and to building stronger, resilient, and more cohesive communities.

Specifically, The Churches' Trust Limited aims are:

- To promote a more united, shared and cohesive society working in collaboration with churches, schools, and community and voluntary sector organisations in the area.
- To develop and provide quality services that tackle deprivation and disadvantage focusing on social inclusion, equality of opportunity, and improving community relations.
- To pro-actively enhance and support the economic, social and cultural development of all our communities within the North West region.

Church leaders acknowledge that deprivation and disadvantage are key barriers to building a united community, equality of opportunity and good relations. They recognise their role in presenting a united voice to help change attitudes and ultimately contribute to moving our community on from conflict to peace. The commitment to addressing issues of social injustice and inequality shapes the main activities of The Churches' Trust Limited.

The Churches' Trust Limited through years of experience and through established networks of churches and schools, understand the challenges facing the communities we support. We are committed to addressing issues of justice and inequality. Our work transcends all communities. In the interests of a shared and better future for all we undertake various projects and activities that bring communities together, and that encourage healing, understanding and respect.

The charity's trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit.

## Achievements and performance

The organisation's activities are shaped by:

- Identifying, challenging and tackling sectarianism and racism through the delivery of good relations and cohesion programmes.
- Recognising the ongoing impact of poverty and disadvantage, supporting people and families in need, tackling social determinants of health inequalities and empowering communities.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

##### Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Our performance and achievements are summarised as follows:

Youth training and development programmes focusing on personal and skills development, improving mental health and wellbeing and enhancing life chances. This includes working with marginalised young people who struggle in formal education structures by providing alternative opportunities through creative pathways, outdoor learning, and personal development programmes.

Developing Women training and support programmes which focus on building self-esteem and confidence, strengthening family supports, and empowering women to take on leadership roles in the community.

Interfaith, inter-church community education projects which focus on the theme of 'Celebrating Commonality'. These projects aim to build a sense of shared community recognising what we have in common as opposed to focusing on what divides us.

Low level intervention care services for older people across the city and rural areas of the Derry City & Strabane District Council. The service is designed to address isolation and promote independence in the home. On average we provided 620 support hours per month. Services provided include befriending, chaperoning, reminiscing, shopping, domestic duties, dealing with correspondence and appointments.

Care & Repair -Maintenance/Handyperson service provided at low cost, affordable rates targeting Older People, low-income families and individuals in areas of deprivation. The service includes cleaning, decluttering, gardening, power washing, fencing decorating, guttering, grave maintenance - in summary those tasks that are difficult to source from mainstream maintenance services but that significantly enhance the mental health and well-being of those in receipt of the service.

Addressing food poverty - The Pantry Project and Social Supermarket. The Pantry Project foodbank provides a crisis response to people experiencing food poverty.

We work with an established network of over 30 churches and 12 schools generating food donations through community giving.

We work in collaboration with community hubs who work intensively to address the underlying root cause of the crises and signpost people to appropriate services.

During this financial year we provided food for over 7,500 people. We have developed our approach to addressing food poverty through our Social Supermarket, working with people on transformative solutions that move people from food insecurity on to addressing the determinants of food poverty.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

## Financial review

The results contained within the Statement of Financial Activities disclose a Net deficit for the year of £38,891.

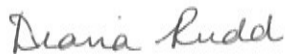
The Churches' Trust Limited continues to broaden its income portfolio by strengthening collaborative working arrangements with partner organisations and other funding agencies. Public funds and grants received through the financial year included The Executive Office, Department for Communities, Community Relations Council, Derry City Strabane Council, Northern Ireland Office, Department of Foreign Affairs (Ireland), Education Authority, and Public Health Agency. We are seeking to extend our income portfolio by building relationships with charitable trusts and now include Charities Aid Foundation, Inner City Trust, SSE Airtricity, Julia and Hans Rausing Trust, Garfield Weston Foundation, Benefact Trust, The Honourable The Irish Society and Enkalon Foundation as supporters of our work.

In January 2024, The Churches' Trust Limited relocated its main administration office from 121 Spencer Road to 11 Limavady Road, Waterside, Derry/Londonderry, BT47 6JU. The impact of this move on the financial results for the year ended 31 March 2024 was £19,590. This includes Capital Costs and Running Costs and contributed to the deficit reported for the year. Recurring costs resulting from relocation will be factored into annual budgets going forward. This office move represents a strategic opportunity to present a more inclusive and accessible core facility with capacity to provide training and development, expand programme delivery, and have a more significant impact on the lives of those most marginalised in our community.

## Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) was approved on 17 October 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Mrs D Rudd - Chair  
Trustee



Mr M Agnew - Treasurer  
Trustee

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Churches' Trust Limited

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024, which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position and the related notes.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- to 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
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your 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 the trustees concerning any such matters.

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

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

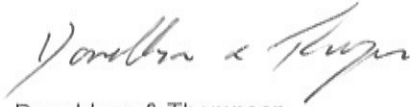
## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Churches' Trust Limited *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

### 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.

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Chartered Accountants Ireland which is one of the listed bodies.



Donaldson & Thompson  
Chartered Accountants  
Independent Examiner

3 Limavady Road  
Londonderry  
BT47 6JU

17 October 2024

**The Churches' Trust Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**(including income and expenditure account)**

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

	Note	2024		2023
		Unrestricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>				
Donations and legacies	5	51,958	<b>51,958</b>	21,352
Charitable activities	6	335,814	<b>335,814</b>	454,110
Investment income	7	5,708	<b>5,708</b>	2,524
<b>Total income</b>		<u>393,480</u>	<u><b>393,480</b></u>	<u>477,986</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Expenditure on charitable activities	8,9	432,371	<b>432,371</b>	476,650
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>432,371</u>	<u><b>432,371</b></u>	<u>476,650</u>
<b>Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds</b>		<u>(38,891)</u>	<u><b>(38,891)</b></u>	<u>1,336</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		359,204	<b>359,204</b>	357,868
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>320,313</u>	<u><b>320,313</b></u>	<u>359,204</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

**The Churches' Trust Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Position**

**31 March 2024**

	Note	2024 £	£	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	15		154,890	152,968
<b>Current assets</b>				
Stocks	16	575		397
Debtors	17	55,491		81,046
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>143,803</u>		<u>186,771</u>
		199,869		268,214
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	18	<u>34,446</u>		<u>61,978</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>165,423</u>	<u>206,236</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>320,313</u>	<u>359,204</u>
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>320,313</u>	<u>359,204</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>				
Unrestricted funds			<u>320,313</u>	<u>359,204</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	20		<u>320,313</u>	<u>359,204</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The statement of financial position  
continues on the following page.  
The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Position *(continued)*

31 March 2024

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 17 October 2024, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Mrs D Rudd - Chair  
Trustee



Mr M Agnew - Treasurer  
Trustee

Company registration number: NI027217

The company is a private limited company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland.

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

### 1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland and a registered charity in Northern Ireland. The address of the registered office is 11 Limavady Road, Waterside, Derry/Londonderry, BT47 6JU.

### 2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

### 3. Accounting policies

#### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

#### Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

#### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

##### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

##### Tangible assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment loss. Cost includes all costs that are directly attributable to bringing the asset into working condition for its intended use.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Property improvements	-	5% reducing balance
Motor vehicles	-	25% straight line
Equipment	-	25% straight line

##### Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

##### Stocks

Stocks are measured at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the stock to its present location and condition.

##### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument. Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted. Where investments in shares or preference shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

#### 4. Limited by guarantee

The Churches' Trust Limited is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required not exceeding £5 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of its being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member.

#### 5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
<b>Donations</b>				
Donations	5,076	5,076	13,795	13,795
Donations - The Pantry Project	1,882	1,882	7,557	7,557
Donations - The Churches' Training Company Ltd	45,000	45,000	—	—
	<u>51,958</u>	<u>51,958</u>	<u>21,352</u>	<u>21,352</u>

#### 6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Other income from charitable activities	158,112	158,112	194,105	194,105
Department of Foreign Affairs; Reconciliation Fund	33,180	33,180	33,051	33,051
Charities Aid Foundation	—	—	100,562	100,562
Care Services	94,532	94,532	87,274	87,274
Department for Communities	49,990	49,990	39,118	39,118
	<u>335,814</u>	<u>335,814</u>	<u>454,110</u>	<u>454,110</u>

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

#### 7. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Bank interest receivable	<u>5,708</u>	<u>5,708</u>	<u>2,524</u>	<u>2,524</u>

#### 8. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Care services	82,614	<b>82,614</b>	75,940	75,940
Other charitable activities	184,758	<b>184,758</b>	195,677	195,677
The Pantry project	4,529	<b>4,529</b>	11,219	11,219
Support costs	160,470	<b>160,470</b>	193,814	193,814
	<u>432,371</u>	<u><b>432,371</b></u>	<u>476,650</u>	<u>476,650</u>

#### 9. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs	Total funds 2024	Total fund 2023
	£	£	£	£
Care services	82,614	29,883	<b>112,497</b>	105,198
Other charitable activities	184,758	86,026	<b>270,784</b>	295,127
The Pantry project	4,529	11,863	<b>16,392</b>	20,164
Governance costs	–	32,698	<b>32,698</b>	56,161
	<u>271,901</u>	<u>160,470</u>	<u><b>432,371</b></u>	<u>476,650</u>

#### 10. Analysis of support costs

	Other Charitable Activities	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Staff costs	125,947	<b>125,947</b>	134,786
Finance costs	1,302	<b>1,302</b>	1,344
Governance costs	31,816	<b>31,816</b>	54,818
Other costs	1,827	<b>1,827</b>	2,866
	<u>160,892</u>	<u><b>160,892</b></u>	<u>193,814</u>

#### 11. Net (expenditure)/income

Net (expenditure)/income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>5,141</u>	<u>4,483</u>

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

#### 12. Independent examination fees

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>2,160</u>	<u>2,160</u>

#### 13. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	250,649	258,590
Social security costs	15,666	17,022
Employer contributions to pension plans	<u>5,182</u>	<u>7,155</u>
	<u>271,497</u>	<u>282,767</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 13 (2023: 13). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Number of staff	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: Nil).

#### Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel include all persons that have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity. The total compensation paid to key management personnel for services provided to the charity was £43,572 (2023:£44,977).

#### 14. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

#### 15. Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Motor vehicles £	Equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 Apr 2023	144,786	3,360	23,708	<b>171,854</b>
Additions	4,223	–	2,840	<b>7,063</b>
<b>At 31 Mar 2024</b>	<b>149,009</b>	<b>3,360</b>	<b>26,548</b>	<b>178,917</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 Apr 2023	3,352	3,360	12,174	<b>18,886</b>
Charge for the year	642	–	4,499	<b>5,141</b>
<b>At 31 Mar 2024</b>	<b>3,994</b>	<b>3,360</b>	<b>16,673</b>	<b>24,027</b>
<b>Carrying amount</b>				
<b>At 31 Mar 2024</b>	<b>145,015</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>9,875</b>	<b>154,890</b>
At 31 Mar 2023	141,434	–	11,534	152,968

#### 16. Stocks

	2024 £	2023 £
Foodbank stock	575	397

#### 17. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	10,257	11,120
Grants receivable	42,024	69,926
Other debtors	3,210	–
	<b>55,491</b>	<b>81,046</b>

#### 18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Bank loans and overdrafts	2,934	4,737
Trade creditors	1,246	1,785
Amounts owed to group undertakings	968	23,454
Accruals and deferred income	10,456	22,867
Social security and other taxes	5,145	5,147
Other creditors	13,697	3,988
	<b>34,446</b>	<b>61,978</b>

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

		2024		2023
		£		£
<b>19. Pensions and other post retirement benefits</b>				
<b>Defined contribution plans</b>				
The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £5,182 (2023: £7,155).				
<b>20. Analysis of charitable funds</b>				
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
	At			At
	1 Apr 2023	Income	Expenditure	31 Mar 2024
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted fund - General funds	<u>359,204</u>	<u>393,480</u>	<u>(432,371)</u>	<u>320,313</u>
	At			At
	1 Apr 2022	Income	Expenditure	31 Mar 2023
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted fund - General funds	<u>357,868</u>	<u>477,986</u>	<u>(476,650)</u>	<u>359,204</u>
<b>21. Analysis of net assets between funds</b>				
		Unrestricted		Total Funds
		Funds		2024
		£		£
Tangible fixed assets		154,891		154,891
Current assets		199,869		199,869
Creditors less than 1 year		<u>(34,447)</u>		<u>(34,447)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>320,313</u>		<u>320,313</u>
		Unrestricted		Total Funds
		Funds		2023
		£		£
Tangible fixed assets		152,968		152,968
Current assets		268,214		268,214
Creditors less than 1 year		<u>(61,978)</u>		<u>(61,978)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>359,204</u>		<u>359,204</u>

## 22. Related parties

During the year ended 31st March 2024 the charity received a donation of £45,000 from The Churches' Training Company Ltd, a charity in which The Churches' Trust Limited is the sole member.

**The Churches Trust Limited**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105253

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# Annual report

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# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report)

Year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

#### Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	The Churches' Trust Limited
Charity registration number	NIC105253
Company registration number	NI027217
Principal office and registered office	11 Limavady Road Waterside Derry/Londonderry BT47 6JU

#### The trustees

Mrs D Rudd - Chair	
Mr M Agnew - Treasurer	
Mr B Bell	(Retired 21 September 2023)
Rev Canon S R Boyd	
Rev Fr M Canny	
Mrs J Hetherington	
Rev C Jones	
Mrs J Miller	
Mr D McGowan	
Mr J O'Kane	
Mr A Rowan	
Deacon M Skuce	

#### Member Trustees

Bishop Andrew Forster  
Bishop Donal McKeown  
Rev Stephen Skuce  
Rev Susan Moore

Chief Executive Mary Holmes

Independent examiner Donaldson & Thompson Chartered Accountants  
3 Limavady Road  
Londonderry  
BT47 6JU

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

#### Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 9th February 1993 and accepted as a charity by HM Revenue & Customs under reference NI01212 and registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland on 24th May 2016 under charity number NIC105253. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £5.

The Directors are appointed by the Member Trustees, the leaders of the Church of Ireland, Methodist Church, Presbyterian Church, and Catholic Church in the North West area. Each Member Trustee appoints one clergy and two lay people to serve as Directors on the Board.

The Directors are responsible for the strategic direction, and the overall management and accountability of the organisation. The Board meet every six to eight weeks. Board membership is diverse in its representation across communities and has a broad skills and expertise base, including financial management, PR, Health & Safety and various community & voluntary sector roles.

The Directors delegate responsibility for day-to-day operations to the Chief Executive and staff team. The Chief Executive provides direct line management for staff employed.

The organisation has developed robust systems and procedures for monitoring and evaluating its work, primarily shaped by the reporting and accountability obligations defined by funding bodies, regulatory organisations and various stakeholders. These systems include mechanisms for ongoing review and evaluation and feed directly into reports to the Board of Directors, which include the following:

- Financial management (including monthly management accounts)
- Performance results against targets
- Stakeholder relationship development
- Regulatory, audit and compliance matters
- Policy and procedure development and approval
- New initiatives
- Human Resource and other organisational matters
- Project / service evaluation and review

Prior to the commencement of the financial year, the board approves a budget that defines the financial parameters and the performance targets for the year. This document is a critical part of the management, monitoring and evaluation of the organisation's performance. The organisation has extensive expertise in managing and claiming grants both of a capital nature and a revenue nature.

#### Objectives and activities

The principal activities and objects of the charity as per the company's Memorandum is 'to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the North West of Ireland without distinction of sex or political, religious or other opinions by associating the local authorities, churches, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to relieve poverty, sickness and distress and to advance education so as to improve the conditions of life for the said inhabitants...'

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

##### Objectives and activities *(continued)*

Our Vision is: A cohesive community without discrimination, disadvantage, or division where people from all communities and backgrounds can equally contribute. Our Mission is: Utilise the strength and determination of local communities to identify, challenge and tackle the causes and impact of discrimination, disadvantage and division reflecting an ethos of peace, trust, humility and hope which are central to our Christian values.

Our work is underpinned by a Trauma Informed Approach and an awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences, Adverse Community Environments, and Atrocious Cultural Experiences (ACEs). During the last year we have focused on embedding this approach into our work, our staff training, and our service delivery. We believe that this is a transformational approach to Peace & Reconciliation, and to building stronger, resilient, and more cohesive communities.

Specifically, The Churches' Trust Limited aims are:

- To promote a more united, shared and cohesive society working in collaboration with churches, schools, and community and voluntary sector organisations in the area.
- To develop and provide quality services that tackle deprivation and disadvantage focusing on social inclusion, equality of opportunity, and improving community relations.
- To pro-actively enhance and support the economic, social and cultural development of all our communities within the North West region.

Church leaders acknowledge that deprivation and disadvantage are key barriers to building a united community, equality of opportunity and good relations. They recognise their role in presenting a united voice to help change attitudes and ultimately contribute to moving our community on from conflict to peace. The commitment to addressing issues of social injustice and inequality shapes the main activities of The Churches' Trust Limited.

The Churches' Trust Limited through years of experience and through established networks of churches and schools, understand the challenges facing the communities we support. We are committed to addressing issues of justice and inequality. Our work transcends all communities. In the interests of a shared and better future for all we undertake various projects and activities that bring communities together, and that encourage healing, understanding and respect.

The charity's trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit.

##### Achievements and performance

The organisation's activities are shaped by:

- Identifying, challenging and tackling sectarianism and racism through the delivery of good relations and cohesion programmes.
- Recognising the ongoing impact of poverty and disadvantage, supporting people and families in need, tackling social determinants of health inequalities and empowering communities.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

##### Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Our performance and achievements are summarised as follows:

Youth training and development programmes focusing on personal and skills development, improving mental health and wellbeing and enhancing life chances. This includes working with marginalised young people who struggle in formal education structures by providing alternative opportunities through creative pathways, outdoor learning, and personal development programmes.

Developing Women training and support programmes which focus on building self-esteem and confidence, strengthening family supports, and empowering women to take on leadership roles in the community.

Interfaith, inter-church community education projects which focus on the theme of 'Celebrating Commonality'. These projects aim to build a sense of shared community recognising what we have in common as opposed to focusing on what divides us.

Low level intervention care services for older people across the city and rural areas of the Derry City & Strabane District Council. The service is designed to address isolation and promote independence in the home. On average we provided 620 support hours per month. Services provided include befriending, chaperoning, reminiscing, shopping, domestic duties, dealing with correspondence and appointments.

Care & Repair -Maintenance/Handyperson service provided at low cost, affordable rates targeting Older People, low-income families and individuals in areas of deprivation. The service includes cleaning, decluttering, gardening, power washing, fencing decorating, guttering, grave maintenance - in summary those tasks that are difficult to source from mainstream maintenance services but that significantly enhance the mental health and well-being of those in receipt of the service.

Addressing food poverty - The Pantry Project and Social Supermarket. The Pantry Project foodbank provides a crisis response to people experiencing food poverty.

We work with an established network of over 30 churches and 12 schools generating food donations through community giving.

We work in collaboration with community hubs who work intensively to address the underlying root cause of the crises and signpost people to appropriate services.

During this financial year we provided food for over 7,500 people. We have developed our approach to addressing food poverty through our Social Supermarket, working with people on transformative solutions that move people from food insecurity on to addressing the determinants of food poverty.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

## Financial review

The results contained within the Statement of Financial Activities disclose a Net deficit for the year of £38,891.

The Churches' Trust Limited continues to broaden its income portfolio by strengthening collaborative working arrangements with partner organisations and other funding agencies. Public funds and grants received through the financial year included The Executive Office, Department for Communities, Community Relations Council, Derry City Strabane Council, Northern Ireland Office, Department of Foreign Affairs (Ireland), Education Authority, and Public Health Agency. We are seeking to extend our income portfolio by building relationships with charitable trusts and now include Charities Aid Foundation, Inner City Trust, SSE Airtricity, Julia and Hans Rausing Trust, Garfield Weston Foundation, Benefact Trust, The Honourable The Irish Society and Enkalon Foundation as supporters of our work.

In January 2024, The Churches' Trust Limited relocated its main administration office from 121 Spencer Road to 11 Limavady Road, Waterside, Derry/Londonderry, BT47 6JU. The impact of this move on the financial results for the year ended 31 March 2024 was £19,590. This includes Capital Costs and Running Costs and contributed to the deficit reported for the year. Recurring costs resulting from relocation will be factored into annual budgets going forward. This office move represents a strategic opportunity to present a more inclusive and accessible core facility with capacity to provide training and development, expand programme delivery, and have a more significant impact on the lives of those most marginalised in our community.

## Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) was approved on 17 October 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Mrs D Rudd - Chair  
Trustee



Mr M Agnew - Treasurer  
Trustee

**The Churches Trust Limited**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105253

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# Annual return

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# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Churches' Trust Limited

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024, which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position and the related notes.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- to 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
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your 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 the trustees concerning any such matters.

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

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

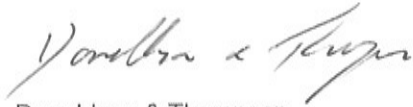
## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Churches' Trust Limited (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2024

### 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.

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Chartered Accountants Ireland which is one of the listed bodies.



Donaldson & Thompson  
Chartered Accountants  
Independent Examiner

3 Limavady Road  
Londonderry  
BT47 6JU

17 October 2024

**The Churches Trust Limited**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105253

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# Accounts

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COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NI027217  
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NIC105253

**The Churches' Trust Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**31 March 2023**

**DONALDSON & THOMPSON**

Chartered Accountants  
3 Limavady Road  
Londonderry  
BT47 6JU

**The Churches' Trust Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Financial Statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report)

Year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

#### Reference and administrative details

**Registered charity name** The Churches' Trust Limited

**Charity registration number** NIC105253

**Company registration number** NI027217

**Principal office and registered office** 121 Spencer Road  
Waterside  
Derry/Londonderry  
BT47 6AE

#### The trustees

Mrs D Rudd - Chair  
Mr M Agnew - Treasurer  
Mr B Bell (Retired 21 September 2023)  
Rev Canon S R Boyd  
Rev Fr M Canny  
Ms J Hetherington (Retired 20 October 2022)  
Rev P Linkens  
Mrs J Miller  
Mr D McGowan  
Mr A Rowan  
Mr J O'Kane  
Deacon M Skuce  
Rev C Jones (Appointed 20 October 2022)

#### Member Trustees

Bishop Andrew Forster  
Bishop Donal McKeown  
Rev Stephen Skuce  
Rev Gordon McCracken

**Chief Executive** Fiona Fagan

**Independent examiner** Donaldson & Thompson Chartered Accountants  
3 Limavady Road  
Londonderry  
BT47 6JU

# **The Churches' Trust Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

#### **Structure, governance and management**

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 9th February 1993 and accepted as a charity by HM Revenue & Customs under reference NI01212 and registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland on 24th May 2016 under charity number NIC105253. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being woundup members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £5.

The Directors are appointed by the Member Trustees, the leaders of the Church of Ireland, Methodist Church, Presbyterian Church, and Catholic Church in the North West area. Each Member Trustee appoints one clergy and two lay people to serve as Directors on the Board.

The Directors are responsible for the strategic direction, and the overall management and accountability of the organisation. The Board meet every six to eight weeks. Board membership is diverse in its representation across communities and has a broad skills and expertise base, including financial management, PR, Health & Safety and various community & voluntary sector roles.

The Directors delegate responsibility for day-to-day operations to the Chief Executive and staff team. The Chief Executive provides direct line management for staff employed.

The organisation has developed robust systems and procedures for monitoring and evaluating its work, primarily shaped by the reporting and accountability obligations defined by funding bodies, regulatory organisations and various stakeholders. These systems include mechanisms for ongoing review and evaluation and feed directly into reports to the Board of Directors, which include the following:

- Financial management (including monthly management accounts)
- Performance results against targets
- Stakeholder relationship development
- Regulatory, audit and compliance matters
- Policy and procedure development and approval
- New initiatives
- Human Resource and other organisational matters
- Project / service evaluation and review

Prior to the commencement of the financial year, the board approves a budget that defines the financial parameters and the performance targets for the year. This document is a critical part of the management, monitoring and evaluation of the organisation's performance. The organisation has extensive expertise in managing and claiming grants both of a capital nature and a revenue nature.

#### **Objectives and activities**

The principal activities and objects of the charity as per the company's Memorandum is ' to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the North West of Ireland without distinction of sex or political, religious or other opinions by associating the local authorities, churches, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to relieve poverty, sickness and distress and to advance education so as to improve the conditions of life for the said inhabitants...'

# **The Churches' Trust Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)***

#### **Year ended 31 March 2023**

##### **Objectives and activities *(continued)***

Our Vision is: A cohesive community without discrimination, disadvantage, or division where people from all communities and backgrounds can equally contribute. Our Mission is: Utilise the strength and determination of local communities to identify, challenge and tackle the causes and impact of discrimination, disadvantage and division reflecting an ethos of peace, trust, humility and hope which are central to our Christian values.

Specifically, The Churches' Trust Limited aims are:

- To promote a more united, shared and cohesive society working in collaboration with churches, schools, and community and voluntary sector organisations in the area.
- To develop and provide quality services that tackle deprivation and disadvantage focusing on social inclusion, equality of opportunity, and improving community relations.
- To pro-actively enhance and support the economic, social and cultural development of all our communities within the North West region.

Church leaders acknowledge that deprivation and disadvantage are key barriers to building a united community, equality of opportunity and good relations. They recognise their role in presenting a united voice to help change attitudes and ultimately contribute to moving our community on from conflict to peace. The commitment to addressing issues of social injustice and inequality shapes the main activities of The Churches' Trust Limited.

The Churches' Trust Limited through years of experience and through established networks of churches and schools, understand the challenges facing the communities we support. We are committed to addressing issues of justice and inequality. Our work transcends all communities. In the interests of a shared and better future for all we undertake various projects and activities that bring communities together, and that encourage healing, understanding and respect.

The charity's trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit.

##### **Achievements and performance**

The organisation's activities are shaped by:

- Identifying, challenging and tackling sectarianism and racism through the delivery of good relations and cohesion programmes.
- Recognising the ongoing impact of poverty and disadvantage, supporting people and families in need, tackling social determinants of health inequalities and empowering communities.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

#### Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Our performance and achievements are summarised as follows:

Youth training and development programmes focusing on personal and skills development, improving mental health and wellbeing and enhancing life chances. This includes working with marginalised young people who struggle in formal education structures by providing alternative opportunities through creative pathways, outdoor learning, and personal development programmes.

Developing Women training and support programmes which focus on building self-esteem and confidence, strengthening family supports, and empowering women to take on leadership roles in the community.

Interfaith, inter-church community education projects which focus on the theme of 'Celebrating Commonality'. These projects aim to build a sense of shared community recognising what we have in common as opposed to focusing on what divides us.

Low level intervention care services for older people across the city and rural areas of the Derry City & Strabane District Council. The service is designed to address isolation and promote independence in the home. On average we provided 620 support hours per month. Services provided include befriending, chaperoning, reminiscing, shopping, domestic duties, dealing with correspondence and appointments.

Care & Repair -Maintenance/Handyperson service provided at low cost, affordable rates targeting Older People, low-income families and individuals in areas of deprivation. The service includes cleaning, decluttering, gardening, power washing, fencing decorating, guttering, grave maintenance - in summary those tasks that are difficult to source from mainstream maintenance services but that significantly enhance the mental health and well-being of those in receipt of the service.

Addressing food poverty - The Pantry Project and Social Supermarket. The Pantry Project foodbank provides a crisis response to people experiencing food poverty. We work with an established network of over 30 churches and 12 schools generating food donations through community giving.

We work in collaboration with community hubs who work intensively to address the underlying root cause of the crises and signpost people to appropriate services.

During this financial year we provided food for over 7,500 people. We have developed our approach to addressing food poverty through our Social Supermarket, working with people on transformative solutions that move people from food insecurity on to addressing the determinants of food poverty.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

## Financial review

The results contained within the Statement of Financial Activities disclose Net Income of £1,336.

The Churches' Trust Limited continues to broaden its income portfolio by strengthening collaborative working arrangements with partner organisations and other funding agencies. Public funds and grants received through the financial year included The Executive Office, Department for Communities, Community Relations Council, Derry City Strabane Council, Northern Ireland Office, Department of Foreign Affairs (Ireland), Education Authority, and Public Health Agency. We are seeking to extend our income portfolio by building relationships with charitable trusts and now include Charities Aid Foundation, Inner City Trust, SSE Airtricity, Julia and Hans Rausing Trust, Garfield Weston Foundation, and Enkalon Foundation as supporters of our work.

In December 2021, The Churches Trust Limited was awarded a substantial grant from Charities Aid Foundation as part of a programme to enable organisations to adapt and thrive; to continue to deliver the services that support the needs of beneficiaries whilst also building organisational resilience. The grant supported the development of our organisational infrastructure through to March 2023.

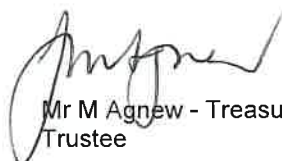
## Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) was approved on 8 November 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Mrs D Rudd - Chair  
Trustee



Mr M Agnew - Treasurer  
Trustee

# **The Churches' Trust Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Churches' Trust Limited**

#### **Year ended 31 March 2023**

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023, which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position and the related notes.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- to 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
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

I have examined your 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 the trustees concerning any such matters.

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

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Churches' Trust Limited

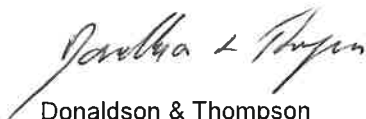
*(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

### 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.

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Chartered Accountants Ireland which is one of the listed bodies.



Donaldson & Thompson  
Chartered Accountants  
Independent Examiner

3 Limavady Road  
Londonderry  
BT47 6JU

8 November 2023

**The Churches' Trust Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**(including income and expenditure account)**

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

		2023		2022
		Unrestricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	Note	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments</b>				
Donations and legacies	5	21,352	<b>21,352</b>	22,351
Charitable activities	6	454,110	<b>454,110</b>	387,423
Other trading activities	7	–	–	38,943
Investment income	8	2,524	<b>2,524</b>	92
<b>Total income</b>		<u>477,986</u>	<u><b>477,986</b></u>	<u>448,809</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Expenditure on raising funds:				
Costs of other trading activities	9	–	–	22,647
Expenditure on charitable activities	10,11	476,650	<b>476,650</b>	413,614
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>476,650</u>	<u><b>476,650</b></u>	<u>436,261</u>
<b>Net income and net movement in funds</b>		<u>1,336</u>	<u><b>1,336</b></u>	<u>12,548</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		357,868	<b>357,868</b>	345,320
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>359,204</u>	<u><b>359,204</b></u>	<u>357,868</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

**The Churches' Trust Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Position**

**31 March 2023**

	Note	2023 £	£	2022 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	17		<b>152,968</b>	150,917
<b>Current assets</b>				
Stocks	18	397		2,639
Debtors	19	81,046		93,670
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>186,771</u>		<u>222,003</u>
		<b>268,214</b>		<b>318,312</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	20	<u>61,978</u>		<u>111,361</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>206,236</b>	<b>206,951</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<b>359,204</b>	<b>357,868</b>
<b>Net assets</b>			<b>359,204</b>	<b>357,868</b>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>				
Unrestricted funds			<u>359,204</u>	<u>357,868</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	22		<b>359,204</b>	<b>357,868</b>

For the year ending 31 March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The statement of financial position  
continues on the following page.  
The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

**The Churches' Trust Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Position** *(continued)*

**31 March 2023**

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 8 November 2023, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Mrs D Rudd - Chair  
Trustee



Mr M Agnew - Treasurer  
Trustee

Company registration number: NI027217

The company is a private limited company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland.

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

**The Churches' Trust Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2023**

**1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland and a registered charity in Northern Ireland. The address of the registered office is 121 Spencer Road, Waterside, Derry/Londonderry, BT47 6AE.

**2. Statement of compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

**3. Accounting policies**

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

**Going concern**

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

##### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

##### Tangible assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment loss. Cost includes all costs that are directly attributable to bringing the asset into working condition for its intended use.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Property improvements	-	5% reducing balance
Motor vehicles	-	25% straight line
Equipment	-	25% straight line

##### Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

##### Stocks

Stocks are measured at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the stock to its present location and condition.

##### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument. Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted. Where investments in shares or preference shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

##### Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

#### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

##### Defined contribution plans *(continued)*

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

#### 4. Limited by guarantee

The Churches' Trust Limited is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required not exceeding £5 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of its being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member.

#### 5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>Donations</b>				
Donations	13,795	<b>13,795</b>	14,675	14,675
Donations - The Pantry Project	7,557	<b>7,557</b>	7,676	7,676
	<u>21,352</u>	<u><b>21,352</b></u>	<u>22,351</u>	<u>22,351</u>

#### 6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Other income from charitable activities	194,105	<b>194,105</b>	167,865	167,865
Department of Foreign Affairs; Reconciliation Fund	33,051	<b>33,051</b>	41,751	41,751
Charities Aid Foundation	100,562	<b>100,562</b>	22,038	22,038
Care Services	87,274	<b>87,274</b>	82,160	82,160
Department for Communities	39,118	<b>39,118</b>	73,609	73,609
	<u>454,110</u>	<u><b>454,110</b></u>	<u>387,423</u>	<u>387,423</u>

#### 7. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Shop income	—	—	30,007	30,007
Employment subsidy	—	—	8,936	8,936
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>38,943</u>	<u>38,943</u>

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

#### 8. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Bank interest receivable	2,524	2,524	92	92

#### 9. Costs of other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Costs of other trading activities - Shop costs	—	—	22,647	22,647

#### 10. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Care services	75,940	75,940	60,430	60,430
Other charitable activities	195,677	195,677	176,217	176,217
The Pantry project	11,219	11,219	11,447	11,447
Support costs	193,814	193,814	165,520	165,520
	476,650	476,650	413,614	413,614

#### 11. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total funds 2023 £	Total fund 2022 £
Care services	75,940	29,258	105,198	86,375
Other charitable activities	195,677	99,450	295,127	271,323
The Pantry project	11,219	8,945	20,164	20,372
Governance costs	—	56,161	56,161	35,544
	282,836	193,814	476,650	413,614

#### 12. Analysis of support costs

	Other Charitable Activities £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Staff costs	134,786	134,786	128,231
Finance costs	1,344	1,344	1,093
Governance costs	54,818	54,818	34,452
Other costs	2,866	2,866	1,744
	193,814	193,814	165,520

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

#### 13. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>4,483</u>	<u>3,321</u>

#### 14. Independent examination fees

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>2,160</u>	<u>1,800</u>

#### 15. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	258,590	251,449
Social security costs	17,022	15,968
Employer contributions to pension plans	<u>7,155</u>	<u>5,005</u>
	<u>282,767</u>	<u>272,422</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 13 (2022: 12). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Number of staff	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

#### Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel include all persons that have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity. The total compensation paid to key management personnel for services provided to the charity was £44,977 (2022:£41,012).

#### 16. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

**The Churches' Trust Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

**17. Tangible fixed assets**

	Land and buildings £	Motor vehicles £	Equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 Apr 2022	144,786	3,360	17,174	<b>165,320</b>
Additions	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	6,534	<b>6,534</b>
<b>At 31 Mar 2023</b>	<u>144,786</u>	<u>3,360</u>	<u>23,708</u>	<b><u>171,854</u></b>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 Apr 2022	2,751	3,360	8,292	<b>14,403</b>
Charge for the year	<u>601</u>	<u>–</u>	3,882	<b>4,483</b>
<b>At 31 Mar 2023</b>	<u>3,352</u>	<u>3,360</u>	<u>12,174</u>	<b><u>18,886</u></b>
<b>Carrying amount</b>				
<b>At 31 Mar 2023</b>	<u>141,434</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>11,534</u>	<b><u>152,968</u></b>
At 31 Mar 2022	<u>142,035</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>8,882</u>	<b><u>150,917</u></b>

**18. Stocks**

	2023 £	2022 £
Foodbank stock	<u>397</u>	<u>2,639</u>

**19. Debtors**

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	11,120	9,086
Grants receivable	<u>69,926</u>	<u>84,584</u>
	<b><u>81,046</u></b>	<b><u>93,670</u></b>

**20. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2023 £	2022 £
Bank loans and overdrafts	4,737	2,494
Trade creditors	1,785	952
Amounts owed to group undertakings	<u>23,454</u>	<u>–</u>
Accruals and deferred income	22,867	32,164
Social security and other taxes	5,147	5,329
Other creditors	<u>3,988</u>	<u>70,422</u>
	<b><u>61,978</u></b>	<b><u>111,361</u></b>

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

#### 21. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

##### Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £7,155 (2022: £5,005).

#### 22. Analysis of charitable funds

##### Unrestricted funds

	At 1 Apr 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	31 Mar 2023 £
Unrestricted fund - General funds	357,868	477,986	(476,650)	<u>359,204</u>

	At 1 Apr 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	31 Mar 2022 £
Unrestricted fund - General funds	345,320	448,809	(436,261)	<u>357,868</u>

#### 23. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	152,968	<b>152,968</b>
Current assets	268,214	<b>268,214</b>
Creditors less than 1 year	(61,978)	<b>(61,978)</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>359,204</u>	<u>359,204</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	150,917	150,917
Current assets	318,311	318,311
Creditors less than 1 year	(111,360)	(111,360)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>357,868</u>	<u>357,868</u>

**The Churches Trust Limited**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105253

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# Annual report

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# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report)

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

#### Reference and administrative details

**Registered charity name** The Churches' Trust Limited

**Charity registration number** NIC105253

**Company registration number** NI027217

**Principal office and registered office** 121 Spencer Road  
Waterside  
Derry/Londonderry  
BT47 6AE

#### The trustees

Mrs D Rudd - Chair  
Mr M Agnew - Treasurer  
Mr B Bell (Retired 21 September 2023)  
Rev Canon S R Boyd  
Rev Fr M Canny  
Ms J Hetherington  
Rev P Linkens (Retired 20 October 2022)  
Mrs J Miller  
Mr D McGowan  
Mr A Rowan  
Mr J O'Kane  
Deacon M Skuce  
Rev C Jones (Appointed 20 October 2022)

#### Member Trustees

Bishop Andrew Forster  
Bishop Donal McKeown  
Rev Stephen Skuce  
Rev Gordon McCracken

**Chief Executive** Fiona Fagan

**Independent examiner** Donaldson & Thompson Chartered Accountants  
3 Limavady Road  
Londonderry  
BT47 6JU

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

#### Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 9th February 1993 and accepted as a charity by HM Revenue & Customs under reference NI01212 and registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland on 24th May 2016 under charity number NIC105253. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being woundup members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £5.

The Directors are appointed by the Member Trustees, the leaders of the Church of Ireland, Methodist Church, Presbyterian Church, and Catholic Church in the North West area. Each Member Trustee appoints one clergy and two lay people to serve as Directors on the Board.

The Directors are responsible for the strategic direction, and the overall management and accountability of the organisation. The Board meet every six to eight weeks. Board membership is diverse in its representation across communities and has a broad skills and expertise base, including financial management, PR, Health & Safety and various community & voluntary sector roles.

The Directors delegate responsibility for day-to-day operations to the Chief Executive and staff team. The Chief Executive provides direct line management for staff employed.

The organisation has developed robust systems and procedures for monitoring and evaluating its work, primarily shaped by the reporting and accountability obligations defined by funding bodies, regulatory organisations and various stakeholders. These systems include mechanisms for ongoing review and evaluation and feed directly into reports to the Board of Directors, which include the following:

- Financial management (including monthly management accounts)
- Performance results against targets
- Stakeholder relationship development
- Regulatory, audit and compliance matters
- Policy and procedure development and approval
- New initiatives
- Human Resource and other organisational matters
- Project / service evaluation and review

Prior to the commencement of the financial year, the board approves a budget that defines the financial parameters and the performance targets for the year. This document is a critical part of the management, monitoring and evaluation of the organisation's performance. The organisation has extensive expertise in managing and claiming grants both of a capital nature and a revenue nature.

#### Objectives and activities

The principal activities and objects of the charity as per the company's Memorandum is 'to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the North West of Ireland without distinction of sex or political, religious or other opinions by associating the local authorities, churches, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to relieve poverty, sickness and distress and to advance education so as to improve the conditions of life for the said inhabitants...'

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

##### **Objectives and activities** *(continued)*

Our Vision is: A cohesive community without discrimination, disadvantage, or division where people from all communities and backgrounds can equally contribute. Our Mission is: Utilise the strength and determination of local communities to identify, challenge and tackle the causes and impact of discrimination, disadvantage and division reflecting an ethos of peace, trust, humility and hope which are central to our Christian values.

Specifically, The Churches' Trust Limited aims are:

- To promote a more united, shared and cohesive society working in collaboration with churches, schools, and community and voluntary sector organisations in the area.
- To develop and provide quality services that tackle deprivation and disadvantage focusing on social inclusion, equality of opportunity, and improving community relations.
- To pro-actively enhance and support the economic, social and cultural development of all our communities within the North West region.

Church leaders acknowledge that deprivation and disadvantage are key barriers to building a united community, equality of opportunity and good relations. They recognise their role in presenting a united voice to help change attitudes and ultimately contribute to moving our community on from conflict to peace. The commitment to addressing issues of social injustice and inequality shapes the main activities of The Churches' Trust Limited.

The Churches' Trust Limited through years of experience and through established networks of churches and schools, understand the challenges facing the communities we support. We are committed to addressing issues of justice and inequality. Our work transcends all communities. In the interests of a shared and better future for all we undertake various projects and activities that bring communities together, and that encourage healing, understanding and respect.

The charity's trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit.

##### **Achievements and performance**

The organisation's activities are shaped by:

- Identifying, challenging and tackling sectarianism and racism through the delivery of good relations and cohesion programmes.
- Recognising the ongoing impact of poverty and disadvantage, supporting people and families in need, tackling social determinants of health inequalities and empowering communities.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

#### **Achievements and performance** *(continued)*

Our performance and achievements are summarised as follows:

Youth training and development programmes focusing on personal and skills development, improving mental health and wellbeing and enhancing life chances. This includes working with marginalised young people who struggle in formal education structures by providing alternative opportunities through creative pathways, outdoor learning, and personal development programmes.

Developing Women training and support programmes which focus on building self-esteem and confidence, strengthening family supports, and empowering women to take on leadership roles in the community.

Interfaith, inter-church community education projects which focus on the theme of 'Celebrating Commonality'. These projects aim to build a sense of shared community recognising what we have in common as opposed to focusing on what divides us.

Low level intervention care services for older people across the city and rural areas of the Derry City & Strabane District Council. The service is designed to address isolation and promote independence in the home. On average we provided 620 support hours per month. Services provided include befriending, chaperoning, reminiscing, shopping, domestic duties, dealing with correspondence and appointments.

Care & Repair -Maintenance/Handyperson service provided at low cost, affordable rates targeting Older People, low-income families and individuals in areas of deprivation. The service includes cleaning, decluttering, gardening, power washing, fencing decorating, guttering, grave maintenance - in summary those tasks that are difficult to source from mainstream maintenance services but that significantly enhance the mental health and well-being of those in receipt of the service.

Addressing food poverty - The Pantry Project and Social Supermarket. The Pantry Project foodbank provides a crisis response to people experiencing food poverty.

We work with an established network of over 30 churches and 12 schools generating food donations through community giving.

We work in collaboration with community hubs who work intensively to address the underlying root cause of the crises and signpost people to appropriate services.

During this financial year we provided food for over 7,500 people. We have developed our approach to addressing food poverty through our Social Supermarket, working with people on transformative solutions that move people from food insecurity on to addressing the determinants of food poverty.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

#### Financial review

The results contained within the Statement of Financial Activities disclose Net Income of £1,336.

The Churches' Trust Limited continues to broaden its income portfolio by strengthening collaborative working arrangements with partner organisations and other funding agencies. Public funds and grants received through the financial year included The Executive Office, Department for Communities, Community Relations Council, Derry City Strabane Council, Northern Ireland Office, Department of Foreign Affairs (Ireland), Education Authority, and Public Health Agency. We are seeking to extend our income portfolio by building relationships with charitable trusts and now include Charities Aid Foundation, Inner City Trust, SSE Airtricity, Julia and Hans Rausing Trust, Garfield Weston Foundation, and Enkalon Foundation as supporters of our work.

In December 2021, The Churches Trust Limited was awarded a substantial grant from Charities Aid Foundation as part of a programme to enable organisations to adapt and thrive; to continue to deliver the services that support the needs of beneficiaries whilst also building organisational resilience. The grant supported the development of our organisational infrastructure through to March 2023.

#### Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) was approved on 8 November 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Mrs D Rudd - Chair  
Trustee



Mr M Agnew - Treasurer  
Trustee

**The Churches Trust Limited**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105253

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# Annual return

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# **The Churches' Trust Limited**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Churches' Trust Limited**

#### **Year ended 31 March 2023**

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023, which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position and the related notes.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- to 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
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

I have examined your 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 the trustees concerning any such matters.

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

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

# The Churches' Trust Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

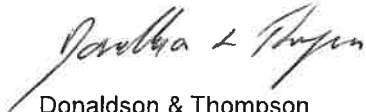
## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Churches' Trust Limited (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2023

### 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.

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Chartered Accountants Ireland which is one of the listed bodies.



Donaldson & Thompson  
Chartered Accountants  
Independent Examiner

3 Limavady Road  
Londonderry  
BT47 6JU

8 November 2023