

Crown Court Church of Scotland London

Scotland · Charity number SC042648

Details

Status	Active
Legal form	Unincorporated association
Part of	The Church of Scotland (SC011353)
Registered	2011-10-12
Register	View on the OSCR register

Contact

Address Crown Court Church of Scotland
Russell Street
Covent Garden
London
WC2B 5EZ

Website www.crowncourtchurch.org.uk

Activities

Activities: 'It carries out activities or services itself'

Purposes: 'the advancement of religion'

What the charity does: Crown Court Church is a congregation of the Church of Scotland, in the Presbytery of England and the Channel Islands. Our charitable purpose is the advancement of religion and we seek to achieve this through services of work and other activities that shape the life of the congregation and its work. The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in government. It exists to glorify God and to work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world. As a national Church in Scotland, it acknowledges a distinctive call and duty to bring the ordinances of religion to the people in every parish of Scotland throughout a territorial ministry. It co-operates with other Churches in various ecumenical bodies in Scotland and beyond.

Beneficiaries: 'No specific group, or for the benefit of the community'

Objectives: To advance religion

Geography

- **Main operating location:** Outwith Scotland
- **Geographical spread:** Wider, but within one local authority area

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£300,676	£175,443	-	3
2023-12-31	£1,579,928	£127,916	-	1
2022-12-31	£102,671	£104,502	-	1
2021-12-31	£252,575	£93,505	-	1
2020-12-31	£453,585	£105,660	-	0

Crown Court Church of Scotland London

Scotland - Charity number SC042648

Accounts



CROWN
COURT
CHURCH OF
SCOTLAND

COVENT GARDEN

Crown Court Church of Scotland

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

Congregation No: 472426

Scottish Charity No: SC042648

Contents

Trustees' Report	3
Structure, Governance and Management	8
Reference and Administrative Information	10
Trustees' Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements	12
Independent Examiner's Report	13
Statement of Financial Activities	14
Balance Sheet	15
Notes to the financial statements	16

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in those statements and comply with the General Assembly Regulations for Congregational Finance, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland effective from 1 January 2019.

Objectives and Activities

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in government. It exists to glorify God and to work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world. As a national Church in Scotland, it acknowledges a distinctive call and duty to bring the ordinances of religion to the people in every parish of Scotland throughout a territorial ministry. It co-operates with other Churches in various ecumenical bodies in Scotland and beyond.

Crown Court Church is a congregation of the Church of Scotland, in the Presbytery of England and the Channel Islands. Our charitable purpose is the advancement of religion and we seek to achieve this through services of work and other activities that shape the life of the congregation and its work.

Services of worship are conducted in Crown Court Church on Sunday mornings which are the main focus of the congregation's week, as congregants gather for worship from across Greater London and the South East of England. There is a Sunday School which meets once a month, a choir which leads the singing at Sunday services and on other occasions for worship, and also a branch of the Guild.

We are an open congregation, welcoming to all. Our Sunday services are livestreamed and watched by those who would otherwise not be able to attend in person. We use our resources wisely and welcome charitable and Christian groups to use our building. We operate a number of outreach programmes through Centrepont (Bruce House) and Christian Aid.

Achievements and Performance

Crown Court Church is uniquely located at the centre of London's Theatreland. The gathered congregation of around 180 members is committed to providing a warm welcome to the many visitors to London who attend services during their time in the capital. The congregation is Scottish and Presbyterian in character but attracts new members and adherents from other nationalities and Christian traditions.

The congregation prides itself in its liberal theological heritage and inclusive ethos.

We continue to operate an 'open doors' season to welcome visitors passing by the church. The Kirk Session's Worship Committee continues its exercise of reimagining what worship could look like on Sunday evenings.

██████████ has led the congregation in thinking about developing for its future flourishing. A congregational Strategy Day was held in 2023 at which the whole congregation had an opportunity to articulate the community's values and hopes for the future. This resulted in the Kirk Session commissioning a 'Futures Committee' to investigate the potential for future redevelopment of the hall and sanctuary for worship, and outreach to the business, residential and tourist sectors in our community. In early 2024, the Futures Committee met with architects in order to understand the potential for redevelopment of our premises. This work has continued during 2024, with the Futures Committee obtaining detailed quotes and costings from quantity surveyors and congregational meetings held to discuss and confirm the scope of the works to be undertaken. We have arrived at a Vision Statement (copies of which are available on request from

the Church Office), and which will shape the final building proposal we seek permission to undertake by the Presbytery and the national Church.

We recognise that we also have to ensure the financial sustainability of the charity. As part of this movement the Kirk Session has changed its approach to the letting of its premises, taking a more professional and commercial attitude, resulting in an uplift in letting income as shown in the accounts which follow. This has been accompanied by the employment of a Finance Administrator to run the congregation's financial operation under the supervision of our Treasurer and Session Clerk.

Music continues to play an important part in the life of Crown Court Church, and our Director of Music, ██████████ ██████████ took up post in March 2024. The investment the Trustees made in his appointment and additionally in the Choral Scholarship Scheme has borne great fruit in terms of the quality of the Choir's contribution to worship and the extension of their repertoire.

All in all, 2024 has been a year for the charity to continue the necessary steps to move forward with a renewal of congregational life and increasing the charity's potential reach in central London. We hope to continue this in 2025.

Plans for future periods

There is no doubt 2025 will be a critical year for the Trustees as they consider options for a significant investment in the assets of the charity for its charitable purposes, which will also make the charity itself more financially sustainable in the long term but also see it make more of an impact on the locality of Covent Garden.

Our Sunday services will continue in person, and online. Our online presence has been enhanced with the launch of a new website.

Financial Performance

The principal sources of income are offerings made by members of the congregation on a weekly or monthly basis, and special fund-raising for major expenditure on the fabric of the Church. Wherever possible, members are encouraged to contribute under the Gift Aid scheme which allows the Church to recover tax incurred by the donors.

Total unrestricted income for the year, excluding legacies, increased from £111,561 to £125,692. During 2023, we were informed of a significant legacy of £1.5m from a former member of the Church, which was partially recognised in the 2023 financial statements. At 31 December 2024, this amount had not been paid from the estate, but remained highly likely and thus remained in the financial statements as accrued income, which has been increased to agree to the final payment of £1,522,168 that was received on 25 March 2025.

After taking into account legacies and unrealised investment gains, unrestricted funds rose by £181,682. Overall funds increased by £180,647. The significant legacy has initially been invested in the Church of Scotland Investors Trust and will be used to partially finance our refurbishment project.

In addition to the normal giving the congregation raised £1,368 (2023: £2,718) for charities working both in London and elsewhere.

At the balance sheet date, the unrestricted reserves were £2,576,670 (2023: £2,394,988), including designated funds of £124,978 (2023: £52,375) with £11,236 (2023: £12,271) in restricted funds.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the trustees to hold reserves sufficient to meet not less than one year's ordinary expenditure, plus any major expenditure on the church or manse that could reasonably be expected to arise within a timeframe that is too short to allow specific fund-raising to be undertaken. This is considered to be a figure of approximately £200,000. Reserves held by the charity at 31 December 2024 are far in excess of the expected ordinary expenditure for 2025, or the minimum amount considered of £200,000. We expect that a large proportion of reserves which are held in excess of one year's ordinary expenditure will be used to partially finance our refurbishment project.

At 31 December 2024, the Church held unrestricted funds of £2,576,670 (2023: £2,394,988). Of these funds, £101,837 (2023: £51,835) has been set aside in a designated fund for fabric expenditure, and £540 (2023: £540) in a designated welfare fund for those in need. A further designated fund for choral bursaries was established during 2024 and had a balance of £22,601 at 31 December 2024. During 2024 a transfer of £100,000 was made from the general fund to the fabric fund, in recognition of a programme of work that is recognised to be required at the Manse and the Church and Hall.

Investment Policy and Performance

Funds surplus to normal requirements are invested in units of the Church of Scotland Investors Trust, split between the Deposit Fund, Growth Fund and the Income Fund. The trustees are of the opinion that this provides an appropriate balance of risk and return. Any decision to invest or divest funds in the Church of Scotland Investors Trust must be approved by the Kirk Session. No investments were made in 2024, other than dividend payments from the Growth Fund which were reinvested in the Deposit Fund.

A description of the funds and amounts held in them at 31 December 2024 is overleaf.

Fund	Description	Value at 31 December 2024
Deposit	Intended for short-term investment, providing a high rate of interest, the fund is invested largely in short-term loans to banks and building societies and managed by professional fund managers (Thomas Miller Investment Ltd). Interest is calculated quarterly and paid twice a year. The average return on investment was 5.1% for the year to 31 December 2024.	£113,390
Growth	Intended for long term investment, the fund is largely equity-based and managed by professional fund managers (Newton Investment Management). Dividends are paid twice a year. The fund recorded a 11.6% return on investment for the year to 31 December 2024.	£632,813
Income	Intended for medium term investment, the fund is largely invested in fixed-interest securities and managed by professional fund managers (Royal London Asset Management). Dividends are paid twice a year. The fund recorded a 5.1% return on investment for the year to 31 December 2024.	£95,204

Further information on the Church of Scotland Investors Trust can be found at the weblink below:

[The Church of Scotland Investors Trust | The Church of Scotland](#)

Given the volatility of the markets during 2024, the Trustees are satisfied with the investment performance during the year.

Risk Management

The Kirk Session, supported by the Stewardship and Finance Committee is focused on ensuring that the charity operates within its financial capabilities and achieves value for money in its prudent spending and investment decisions. The trustees are also mindful of their need to place a high priority in minimising risk to those who work for the charity, attend church or rent the premises. Policies are in place covering health and safety and fire prevention. During 2024, the Kirk Session approved updated Financial Operating Procedures for the charity.

The most significant risks to the charity are set out below:

Operational Risk

Significant expenditure is required to maintain the fabric of the church building

There is a risk that the church and hall are found to not meet health and safety, fire prevention, electrical safety and other regulations. Repairs to rectify these defects could exceed the value of our financial reserves

Strategy to manage risk

Through the Fabric Committee, the trustees ensure that a regular programme of inspection on equipment and the fabric of the building is undertaken. Where inspections indicate that work is required, the Fabric Committee will remedy the matters. Where significant expenditure is required, a decision for expenditure will be approved by the Kirk Session.

During 2023, an inspection of the church and hall by a Health and Safety representative of the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland, found that a significant level of repair, maintenance and upgrade was required to ensure the charity met all relevant legislative requirements. Immediate requirements were met by the Fabric Committee who have embarked on a programme of maintenance in the hall to ensure we meet minimum safety standards.

Financial Risk**There is a significant fall in the level of congregational giving**

There is a risk that the level of congregational giving falls significantly enough to mean that we cannot meet our Giving to Grow payments to the Church of Scotland.

Strategy to manage risk

The level of congregational giving, along with gift aid and other donations is closely monitored by the Treasurer, Stewardship and Finance Committee and the Kirk Session. All members are encouraged to complete Gift Aid forms to ensure the charity receives the benefit of tax that has been paid. During 2024 we installed contactless payment machines in the church and the hall to encourage giving in an increasingly cashless society. During the autumn of 2024 the Stewardship and Finance Committee ran a stewardship campaign to encourage members to consider their giving, and where it could be afforded, to increase it. Early indicators from the campaign are encouraging.

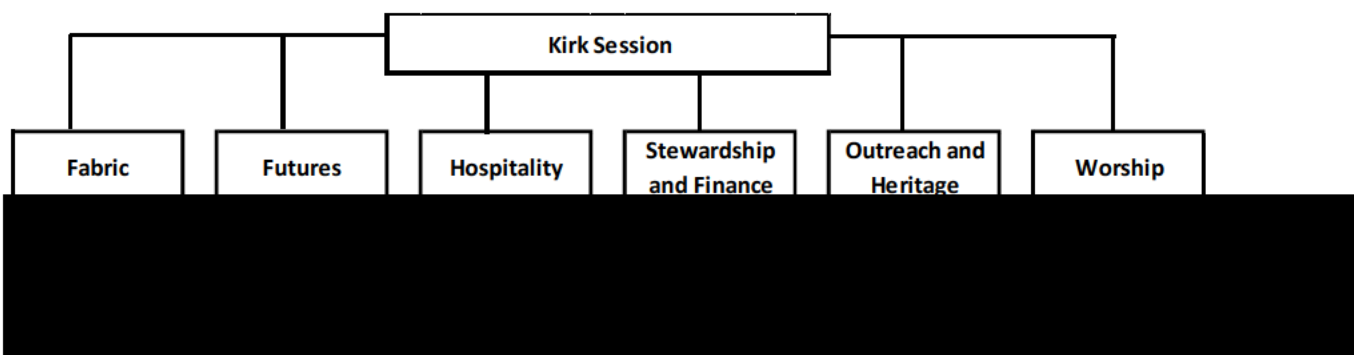
The Stewardship and Finance Committee will continue to consider whether there is a need to run another campaign to increase congregational giving, or a campaign for specific expenditures.

Structure, Governance and Management

The congregation is a registered charity, number SC042648, and is administered in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Constitution (Unitary Form). It is subject to the Acts and Regulations of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

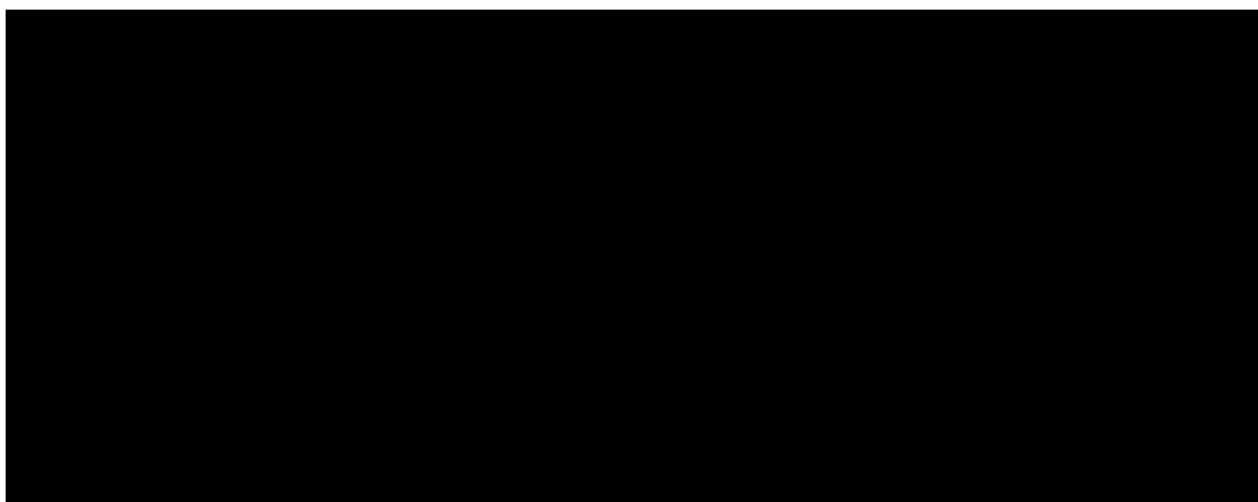
The members of the Kirk Session are the trustees of the charity. The Kirk Session members are elders of the church and are chosen from those members of the church who are considered to have the appropriate level of time and talents and have pledged to use those talents in furthering the ministry. The Kirk Session, which generally meets up to six times a year, is responsible for spiritual affairs within the church. All trustees are made aware of their responsibilities for the finance, management and pastoral outreach in the Church upon appointment and through regular training sessions. The minister, who is a member of the Kirk Session, is elected by the congregation and inducted by Presbytery.

The Kirk Session has six main sub-Committees as set out below:



Each sub-Committee has an elder of the church as Convener who reports to the Kirk Session. Sub-Committee conveners at the date of this annual report are noted in the diagram above. Sub-Committees meet on a regular basis, the frequency being determined by the workload and projects in hand.

Members of sub-committees do not require to be an elder of the church and we encourage congregational membership of the committees. In addition to trustee members, the following church members, who are not elders sit on Committees:



In addition to the sub-Committees above, the charity also operates a Pastoral Care team, which reports directly to Kirk Session but is not considered to be a sub-Committee of the Session.

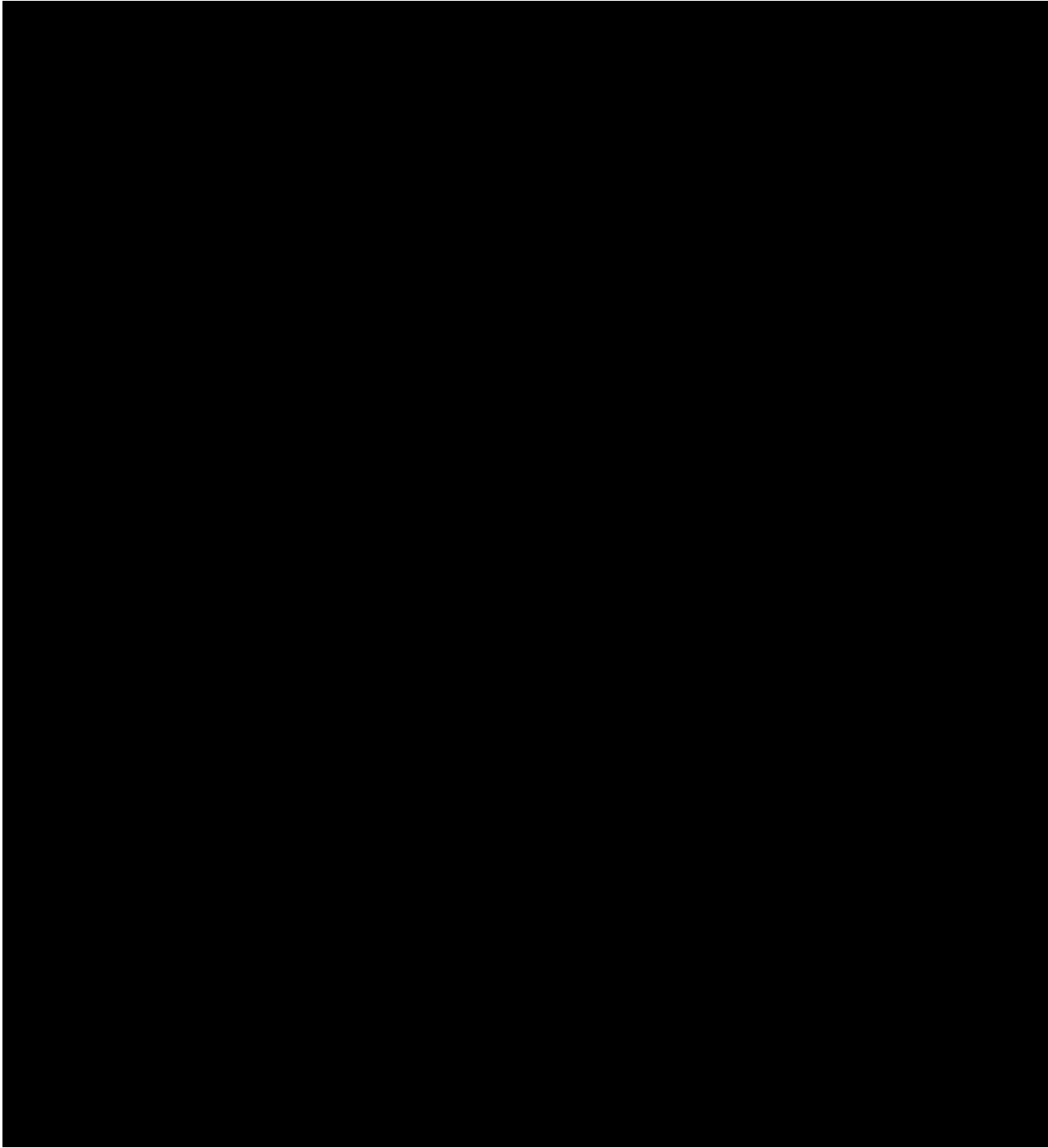
Decisions are made by the consensus of Kirk Session. Where urgent decisions require to be made regarding the fabric of the building, authority is delegated to the majority of the Minister, Session Clerk, Treasurer and Fabric Committee Convener. Any such decisions made are reported to the Kirk Session at the earliest opportunity.

For 2024, the charity had three employees, the Church Administrator, a Finance Administrator and the Director of Music. Their working hours are agreed with the Session Clerk and Minister. Their pay is recommended by the Stewardship and Finance Committee for approval by the Kirk Session.

Reference and Administrative Information

Trustees

The members of the Kirk Session are the trustees of the charity. The Kirk Session members are elders of the church and are chosen from those members of the church who are considered to have the appropriate level of time and talents and have pledged to use those talents in furthering the ministry. The minister, who is a member of the Kirk Session, is elected by the congregation and inducted by Presbytery. [REDACTED] was inducted to the charge of Crown Court Church on 5 May 2022.



Independent Examiner

Whitelaw Wells
Chartered Accountants
9 Ainslie Place
Edinburgh
EH3 6AT

Bankers

The Royal Bank of Scotland
London Fleet Street Branch
1 Fleet Street
London
EC4Y 1BD

Investment Managers

Church of Scotland Investors Trust
121 George Street
Edinburgh
EH2 4YN

Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information on the congregation's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Session Clerk

12 June 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members and Trustees of Crown Court Church of Scotland for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 set out on pages 14 to 26.

Responsibilities of the charity's committee and independent examiner

The charity's Directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity's Directors consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations (as amended) does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the Directors concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

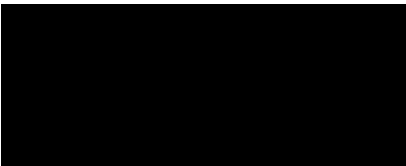
Independent Examiner's Statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44 (1)(a) of The Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts regulations and Section 381 and 382 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Whitelaw Wells
Chartered Accountant
9 Ainslie Place
Edinburgh
EH3 6AT

12 June 2025

Crown Court Church of Scotland

Annual Report and Financial Statements 2024

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	2	244,175	1,754	245,929	1,535,343	1,040	1,536,383
Charitable activities	3	1,178	-	1,178	1,431	-	1,431
Other trading activities	4	28,635	-	28,635	23,140	-	23,140
Investments	5	24,934	-	24,934	20,014	-	20,014
Total income		298,922	1,754	300,676	1,579,928	1,040	1,580,968
Expenditure on:							
	6						
Raising funds		562	-	562	116	-	116
Charitable activities		172,092	2,789	174,881	127,800	8,814	136,614
Total expenditure		172,654	2,789	175,443	127,916	8,814	136,730
Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments		126,268	(1,035)	125,233	1,452,012	(7,774)	1,444,238
Net gains/(losses) on investments		55,414	-	55,414	46,094	-	46,094
Net income/(expenditure)		181,682	(1,035)	180,647	1,498,106	(7,774)	1,490,332
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		181,682	(1,035)	180,647	1,498,106	(7,774)	1,490,332
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward	16	2,394,988	12,271	2,407,259	896,882	20,045	916,927
Total funds carried forward		2,576,670	11,236	2,587,906	2,394,988	12,271	2,407,259

The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year set out above.
All activities of the charity are classed as continuing and are unrestricted in the current and previous years.
The notes on pages 16 to 26 are an integral part of this Statement of Financial Activities.

Crown Court Church of Scotland

Annual Report and Financial Statements 2024

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	9	60,993	-	60,993	63,768
Investments	10	728,018	-	728,018	672,604
Total Fixed Assets		789,011	-	789,011	736,372
Current Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	11	155,330	11,236	166,566	199,679
Debtors	12	1,648,699	-	1,648,699	1,486,302
Total Current Assets		1,804,029	11,236	1,815,265	1,685,981
Liabilities					
Creditors falling due within one year	13	16,370	-	16,370	15,094
Net Current Assets		1,787,659	11,236	1,798,895	1,670,887
Net Assets		2,576,670	11,236	2,587,906	2,407,259
The Funds of the Charity					
Restricted income funds	16			11,236	12,271
Unrestricted income funds	16			2,576,670	2,394,988
Total Charity Funds				2,587,906	2,407,259

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees of the Charity on 12 June 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Session Clerk

Stewardship and Finance Committee Convener

Notes to the Financial Statements

Note 1 – Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies, which have been applied consistently in the current and preceding year in dealing with items which are considered material to the accounts, are set out below.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) effective from 1 January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

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

Fund accounting

Funds are classified as either restricted funds or unrestricted funds, defined as follows.

- **Restricted funds** are funds subject to specific requirements as to their use which may be declared by the donor or with their authority or created through legal processes, but still within the wider objects of the charity.
- **Unrestricted funds** are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. If parts of the unrestricted funds are earmarked at the discretion of the trustees for a particular purpose, they are designated as a separate fund. This designation has an administrative purpose only and does not legally restrict the trustees' discretion to apply the fund.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the ability of the charity to continue for the foreseeable future, and therefore have adopted the going concern basis in preparing these financial statements.

Recognition of income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations, legacies and similar incoming resources are included in the period in which they are receivable, which is when the charity becomes entitled to the resource. For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either:

- The charity is aware that confirmation (or equivalent) has been granted;
- The estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made; or
- When a distribution is received from the estate.

Income from charitable activities

Income from activities is included in the SOFA in the period in which it is receivable.

Investment income and rental income

Income from investments and rental income is included in the SOFA in the period in which it is receivable.

Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) the general volunteer time of congregation members is not recognised in these financial statements.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised as expenditure in the period of receipt.

Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank or investment fund.

Recognition and allocation of expenditure

Expenditure is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for expenditure.

Fixed assets

The charity has the right to occupy and use for its charitable objects certain tangible fixed assets, including the church, church hall and manse. No consideration is payable for the use of these assets. Expenditure incurred on the repair and maintenance of these assets is charged as resources expended in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which the liability arises.

All tangible fixed assets costing in excess of £1,000 having a value to the charity greater than one year, other than those acquired for specific purposes, are capitalised. Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis to write off the cost or initial value, less residual value, of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives.

Audio visual equipment	5 years
------------------------	---------

Investments

Fixed and current asset investments are stated at fair value at the balance sheet date. Unrealised gains and losses represent the difference between the fair value at the beginning and end of the financial year or, if purchased in the year, the difference between cost and fair value at the end of the year. Realised gains and losses represent the difference between the proceeds on disposal and the fair value at the start of the year or cost if purchased in the year.

Taxation

Crown Court Church of Scotland is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and is therefore not subject to taxation on its charitable activities. The charity is not registered for VAT and resources expended therefore include irrecoverable input VAT.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at bank and in hand. The charity holds cash and cash equivalents with the Royal Bank of Scotland and the Church of Scotland Investors Trust.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any discounts due. Accrued income, where income has been earned, or in the case of legacies, notified and highly likely to be received, but not yet received is recognised at the charity's best estimate of value.

Creditors

Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Financial instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Critical Judgements and estimates

In preparing the financial statements Trustees make estimates and assumptions which affect reported results, financial position and disclosure of contingencies. Use of available information and application of judgement are inherent in the formation of the estimates, together with past experience and expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results in the future could differ from such estimates.

The estimates and assumptions with a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are:

- The inclusion of legacies which have not been paid to the charity at the year end

Crown Court Church of Scotland

Annual Report and Financial Statements 2024

Note 2 – Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Offerings	53,542	-	53,542	53,296	-	53,296
Tax recovered on Gift Aid	17,036	-	17,036	12,422	-	12,422
Legacies	173,230	-	173,230	1,468,367	-	1,468,367
Other donations	367	1,754	2,120	1,258	1,040	2,298
	244,175	1,754	265,929	1,535,343	1,040	1,536,383

Note 3 – Income from Charitable Activities

Weddings and Funerals	1,178	-	1,178	1,384	-	1,384
Fundraising income	-	-	-	47	-	47
	1,178	-	1,178	1,431	-	1,431

Note 4 – Income from other trading activities

Rental income – Church and Hall	28,635	-	28,635	23,140	-	23,140
------------------------------------	---------------	----------	---------------	---------------	----------	---------------

Note 5 – Investment Income

Dividends received	18,555	-	18,555	16,206	-	16,206
Deposit Fund interest	5,190	-	5,190	2,437	-	2,437
Bank account interest	1,189	-	1,189	1,371	-	1,371
	24,934	-	24,934	20,014	-	20,014

Crown Court Church of Scotland

Annual Report and Financial Statements 2024

Note 6 – Analysis of Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Raising Funds						
Offering envelopes	202	-	202	116	-	116
Stewardship campaign	360	-	360	-	-	-
	562	-	562	116	-	116
Charitable Activities						
Giving to Grow	50,339	-	50,339	46,708	-	46,708
Presbytery dues	1,665	-	1,665	1,440	-	1,440
Minister travel expenses	649	-	649	492	-	492
Minister communications	708	-	708	1,607	-	1,607
Pulpit Supply	1,031	-	1,031	443	-	443
Organist and music	8,099	-	8,099	-	-	-
Deputy organist & musicians	955	-	955	6,508	-	6,508
Church Administrator	8,679	-	8,679	5,791	-	5,791
Manse Expenditure *	5,385	-	5,385	6,228	7,892	14,120
Church & Hall Expenditure*	9,056	-	9,056	21,965	-	21,965
Insurance	5,905	-	5,905	5,533	-	5,533
Organ and pianos	533	-	533	1,257	-	1,257
Contract cleaning	7,213	-	7,213	3,098	-	3,098
Pest control	769	-	769	732	-	732
Church office costs	2,417	-	2,417	3,746	-	3,746
Software licences	576	-	576	609	-	609
Copyright and Radio licence	411	-	411	495	-	495
Website & Branding project	2,958	-	2,958	6,750	-	6,750
Kitchen & Catering costs	-	2,768	2,768	-	849	849
Flowers, less donations	816	-	816	256	-	256
Training costs	2,592	-	2,592	-	-	-
Subscriptions, Memberships	1,256	-	1,256	814	-	814
Sunday School	-	21	21	-	73	73
Bank Charges	113	-	113	184	-	184
External audit / Independent Examination fee	2,520	-	2,520	9,990	-	9,990
Pastoral Care & Outreach	84	-	84	390	-	390
Depreciation	2,775	-	2,775	-	-	-
Other expenses	2,191	-	2,191	2,764	-	2,764
Designated fund expenditure	52,397	-	52,397	-	-	-
	172,092	2,789	174,881	127,800	8,814	136,614
TOTAL	172,654	2,789	175,443	127,916	8,814	136,730

Crown Court Church of Scotland

Annual Report and Financial Statements 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Manse Expenditure						
Council tax	3,306	-	3,306	3,122	-	3,122
Water rates	308	-	308	949	-	949
Maintenance	1,771	-	1,771	2,157	7,892	10,049
Total	5,385	0	5,385	6,228	7,892	14,120
Church and Hall Expenditure						
Heating and lighting	7,195	-	7,195	5,220	-	5,220
Water rates	207	-	207	170	-	170
Maintenance	1,654	-	1,654	16,575	-	16,575
Total	9,056	0	9,056	21,965	-	21,965

Support costs have not been separately identified as the Trustees consider there is only one charitable activity. Therefore, support costs relate wholly to that activity.

Crown Court Church of Scotland

Annual Report and Financial Statements 2024

Note 7 – Staff Costs and Numbers

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and wages	15,928	5,791
Social security costs	-	-
Total	15,928	5,791

In 2024, there was one part-time administrator and one Director of Music employed by the charity (2023: One part-time administrator). No employee earned benefits in excess of £60,000 (2023: None).

All Church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the costs of all ministers' stipends and employer's contributions for national insurance, pension and housing and loan fund. Ministers' stipends are paid in accordance with the national stipend scale, which is related to years of service. For the year under review the minimum stipend was £31,642 and the maximum stipend (in the fifth and subsequent years of service) £38,884.

Note 8 – Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

During the year, the Minister, ██████████ received £649 for reimbursement of travel expenses (2023: £492). Council tax on the Manse of £3,306 (2023: £3,122); mobile phone costs of £193 (2023: £187) and broadband costs for the manse of £515 (2023: £515) were paid on behalf of the ██████████

██████████ During 2023 the Kirk Session approved the purchase of an iPad for the ██████████ at a cost of £858.

██████████ a member of the Kirk Session, until 15 October 2024 was employed as Church Administrator during the year and received remuneration of £8,679 (2023: £5,791).

██████████ husband of Kirk Session member ██████████ received £565 as Deputy Organist in ██████████ payments were made in 2024.

No other trustee or related person received any remuneration or other payment of expenses in 2024 (2023: None).

Except as noted above, no Trustee or person related to a Trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transactions entered into by the Charity during the year. Three trustees were also trustees of the Royal Scottish Corporation (ScotsCare) during 2024. None are considered to have been in a position of significant control at either entity and therefore this has not been considered as a related party to Crown Court Church.

During the year, donations were made by Trustees to the Charity. However, it is not practical for the total to be reported as donations may be made in cash, in kind and on an anonymous basis.

Crown Court Church of Scotland

Annual Report and Financial Statements 2024

Note 9 – Tangible Fixed Assets

	Buildings	Audio Visual Equipment	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
Value at 1 January	49,893	13,875	63,768	49,893
Additions	-	-	-	13,875
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	(2,775)	(2,775)	-
Value at 31 December	49,893	11,100	60,993	63,678

The Trustees hold the title to the Church and the Manse. No valuation for the Church is available, and it is excluded from the accounts. The Manse is shown in the accounts at cost. In the opinion of the Trustees, the market value of the property is not less than £2.5million.

Note 10 – Investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Market value at 1 January	672,604	626,510
Purchases in year	-	-
Disposals in year	-	-
Unrealised (losses)/gains	55,414	46,094
Market value at 31 December	728,018	672,604
Investments at cost	570,000	570,000

All funds above are invested in the Church of Scotland Investors Trust. Crown Court Church holds units in both the Growth Fund and the Income Fund.

Note 11 – Cash and Cash Equivalents

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Cash at bank	41,940	11,236	53,176	99,679
Church of Scotland Investors Trust Deposit Fund	113,390	-	113,390	100,000
	155,330	11,236	166,566	199,679

Crown Court Church of Scotland

Annual Report and Financial Statements 2024

Note 12 – Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Prepayments	502	485
Tax recoverable under Gift Aid	50,863	57,500
Trade debtors	1,166	2,193
Accrued income - legacies	1,596,168	1,426,124
	1,648,699	1,486,302

The charity recognised a significant legacy in 2023 that was expected to be paid during 2024. The amount had not been paid by the year end, although it was paid by the end of March 2025 it continues to be recognised as accrued income above.

Note 13 – Creditors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Sundry creditors	16,370	15,094

Note 14 – Analysis of Net Assets Among Funds

	General	Designated	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	60,993	-	-	60,993
Investments	728,018	-	-	728,018
Current Assets	1,679,051	124,978	11,236	1,815,265
Current Liabilities	(16,370)	-	-	(16,370)
Net Assets at 31 December 2024	2,451,692	124,978	11,236	2,587,906
Fixed Assets	63,768	-	-	63,768
Investments	672,604	-	-	672,604
Current Assets	1,621,335	52,375	12,271	1,685,981
Current Liabilities	(15,094)	-	-	(15,094)
Net Assets at 31 December 2023	2,342,613	52,375	12,271	2,407,259

Crown Court Church of Scotland

Annual Report and Financial Statements 2024

Note 15 – Volunteers

In common with all congregations of the Church of Scotland, the congregation benefits from the contribution made by volunteers who give their time and talents willingly for the benefit of the Church. The areas of congregational life which rely on the contribution of volunteers are many and varied and much of the activity would be unable to continue were it not for the commitment shown.

Note 16 – Movement in Funds

	At 1 January 2024	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers between Funds	Investment Gains / (Losses)	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds						
Kitchen and Catering	11,368	1,754	(2,768)	-	-	10,354
Sunday School	903	-	(21)	-	-	882
	12,271	1,754	(2,789)	-	-	11,236
Unrestricted Funds						
Designated Fabric	51,835	-	(49,998)	100,000	-	101,837
Designated Welfare	540	-	-	-	-	540
Designated Choral Scholarship	-	-	(2,399)	25,000	-	22,601
General	2,342,613	298,922	(120,257)	(125,000)	55,414	2,279,524
	2,394,988	298,922	(172,654)	-	55,414	2,404,502
Total Funds	2,407,259	300,676	(175,443)	-	55,414	2,587,906

	At 1 January 2023	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers between Funds	Investment Gains / (Losses)	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds						
Manse	7,892	-	(7,892)	-	-	-
Kitchen and Catering	11,177	1,040	(849)	-	-	11,368
Sunday School	976	-	(73)	-	-	903
	20,045	1,040	(8,814)	-	-	12,271
Unrestricted Funds						
Designated Fabric	64,594	-	(12,759)	-	-	51,835
Designated Welfare	540	-	-	-	-	540
General	831,748	1,579,928	(115,157)	-	46,094	2,342,613
	896,882	1,579,928	(127,916)	-	46,094	2,394,988
Total Funds	916,927	1,580,968	(136,730)	-	46,094	2,407,259

Crown Court Church of Scotland**Annual Report and Financial Statements 2024**Purposes of Restricted Funds

Manse	This fund was established to provide for the cost of refurbishing the manse during 2022. The fund was fully utilised during 2023.
Kitchen and Catering	This fund was established to meet the costs of providing refreshments for congregational events and maintaining kitchen equipment.
Sunday School	This fund is available to provide resources for use by the Sunday School.

Purposes of Designated Funds

Fabric	The Trustees have set aside funds for large projects and significant maintenance costs of the church and manse.
Welfare	The Trustees have set aside funds for those considered to be in need of support.
Choral Scholarship	To develop and enhance the Choir, the Trustees have set aside funds for the payment of annual scholarships through a Choral Scholarship Scheme and payments for ad-hoc augmentation of the Choir for certain services and/or performances.

Note 17 – Collections for Third Parties

	2024	2023
	£	£
Borderline / ScotsCare	-	745
Christian Aid	475	980
Centrepont – Bruce House	380	133
DEC – Turkey-Syria Earthquake	-	537
Westminster Foodbank	513	323
	1,368	2,718

Note 18 – Operating Leases

The charity holds one operating lease, for the church office photocopier. Future lease payments are as follows:

	£
Due within 1 year	1,099
Due within 2 – 5 years	3,022