



# **EDINBURGH STREET PASTORS**

**(Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)**

## **REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**Edinburgh Street Pastors**

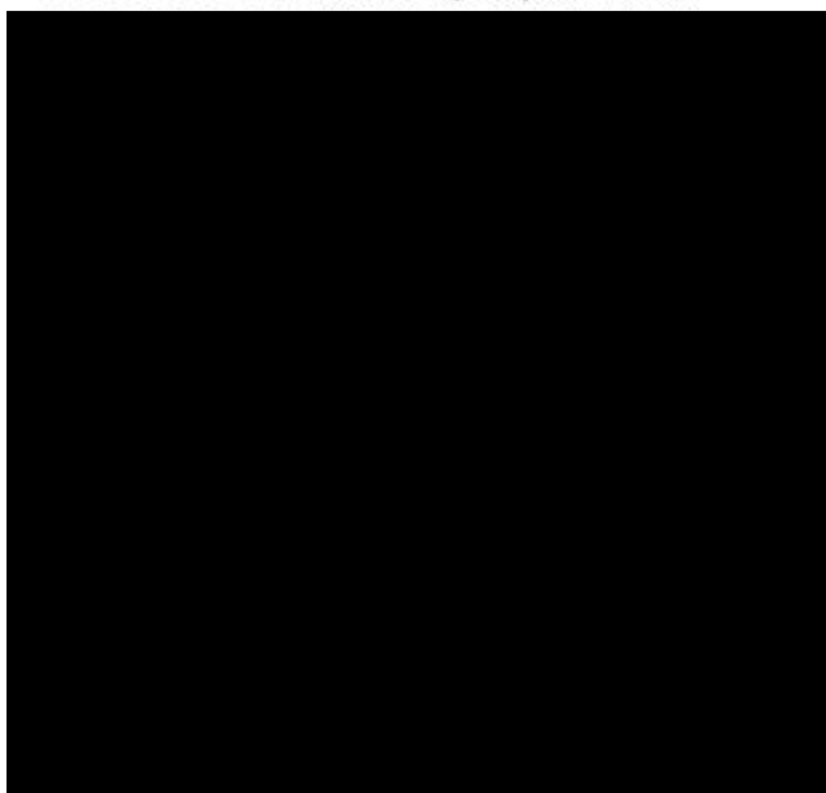
**Trustees' Annual Report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025**

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**Legal and administrative information**

**Trustees**

The Trustees who served during the period were:



**Bankers**

Bank of Scotland PLC  
51 South Clerk Street  
Edinburgh  
EH8 9PP

**Trustees' Report**

## **Trustees' Report**

### **Governing document**

The charity has been set up as a SCIO and was recognised by OSCR as a Scottish Charity with effect from 22 November 2012. The charity is administered in accordance with the terms of the constitution.

### **Recruitment and appointment of Trustees**

Trustees are elected by members at the Annual General Meeting, for a term of three years. At the end of the appointment, trustees stand down and may be re-elected for a maximum of a further two terms. Where a vacancy exists, trustees may be appointed by the board of management at any time, but co-opted trustees must stand down at the next AGM.

### **Charitable purposes**

The organisation's purposes are:

1. To advance the Christian Faith in accordance with the Licence Agreement executed with Ascension Trust (Scotland) and the Core Values and Mission Statement appearing in the Schedule hereto in Edinburgh and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees may from time to time to think fit, particularly but not exclusively by means of caring, listening and helping people on the streets and at various venues day and night.
2. To advance health, including the prevention and relief of sickness and human suffering, through the provision of goods or services of any kind including through the provision of counselling and support in Edinburgh and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees may from time to time to think fit, particularly but not exclusively by means of caring, listening and helping people, including those suffering from amongst other reasons excessive alcohol or substance use or misuse, on the streets and at various venues, day and night.
3. To relieve those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage by the provision of goods or services of any kind including through the provision of counselling and support in Edinburgh and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees may from time to time to think fit, particularly but not exclusively by means of caring, listening and helping people on the streets and at various venues, day and night.

### Trustees' Report (Continued)

Edinburgh Street Pastors began operating in 2009 when a group of local churches gained the support of the City of Edinburgh Council and local Police to form teams of volunteers to provide care and assistance to people in the City Centre during the nighttime economy. This follows the model initiated by the Ascension Trust, the umbrella organisation set up in 2003 to oversee and support the new Street Pastor initiatives in the UK.

The broad aim of Street Pastors is to be a church response to issues in society, in keeping with the biblical mandate to provide care and relief for those who suffer and to act as "salt and light", doing good deeds in society. This aim is detailed in the organisation's charitable purposes above.

In the year to March 2025, an average of 50 volunteers carried out the activities of the charity. In the main, this was providing a series of regular weekend "patrols" – teams of volunteers in the City Centre giving help and assistance to people in various forms of need. Seven teams exist, operating every Friday and three Saturdays each month.

Volunteers are drawn from a variety of backgrounds. They must be at least 18 years and, as a Christian organisation, be professing Christians. Training is provided, each year a programme of training sessions is laid on and volunteers are required to attend ten modules, totalling 35 hours of inputs before they are deemed fully qualified.

The current volunteers are drawn from 38 different churches within the Edinburgh area, representing a broad range of Christian backgrounds, traditions and denominations.

Edinburgh Street Pastors operates from a rented office in the Greyfriars Charteris Centre. A part-time Coordinator was appointed in January for an initial six-month period and normally works from the office there. It is then used as a meeting place for weekend patrols as well as storage for supplies.

While on patrol, Street Pastors seek to give help to anyone in need. Help is given to anyone in need on a strict non-judgemental basis and is fully confidential.

The principal beneficiaries are:

- **Homeless people.** Those in need receive immediate relief from hunger, cold and exposure to the elements as well as advice and then signposting to specialist agencies to access help with long-term needs.  
Street Pastors give hot drinks, food, clothing and blankets to people on the streets. These measures provide not just comfort but also support the health, in some cases possibly sustaining the life of rough sleepers.
- **Visitors, revellers and workers in the city centre.** People are more likely to become victims of crime in the nighttime economy, and the fear of crime is raised. Among other activities, Street Pastors locate and lead to safety those at risk of becoming victims of crime, especially lone women; we attempt to de-escalate situations of conflict which could lead to violence and give first aid to those with minor injuries.

## Trustees' Report (Continued)

In addition, Street Pastors:

- Give responses to enquiries about the Christian faith.
- where appropriate, offering to pray with people on the streets.
- signpost enquirers to a local church, including youth work where young people can be directed towards meaningful and fulfilling activity.

By continuing these activities, the charity will,

1. Improve Community Safety
2. Provide relief for those experiencing poverty and homelessness.
3. Give a broad range of help and support where required.
4. Meet the spiritual needs of people who make enquiries.

Volunteers patrol at the same frequency as the previous year, which is seven nights each month. In the 12-month period to 31<sup>st</sup> March, Street Pastors spent 85 evenings on the City Centre Streets – a total of over 1,800 volunteer hours serving the community and nearly 3,000 individual instances of help given to people in need.

The charity continues to work closely with Police Scotland and the City of Edinburgh Council. Regular liaison takes place with the Police and patrols work closely with the City CCTV unit to be directed to where they can provide help. Street Pastors also alert the CCTV unit to situations where additional resources may be required.

We hold an annual "Commissioning Service" for new volunteers. At our service in April 2024, The City Council and Police, represented by the Deputy Provost and Deputy Commander respectively gave messages of gratitude for the contribution the charity had made to the community over the previous year. 6 new volunteers were also welcomed into the organisation, having completed their training.

We are continually looking for new volunteers because recruitment is not at the level we would like. The work our people undertake is challenging – working outdoors in all weathers during nighttime and throughout the year is not easy and we recognise that this is arduous, requiring very high levels of motivation. During the year, there was a net gain of one new volunteer when measuring retirements against recruitment. Nonetheless, we believe that the contribution made to the community is very valuable and volunteers constantly receive unsolicited messages of gratefulness from people they meet. Our goal remains to expand our volunteer base.

## **Trustees' Report (Continued)**

### **Financial review**

Our main sources of funding in the year being reported have been grants of from the Volunteer Support Fund and various trusts. The VSF grant represents the final year of a three-year award. A deficit in the year was recorded. This was due to a fall in successful grant applications and fundraising activity..

The previous Edinburgh Street Pastors Co-ordinator retired from the post in December, 2024. The Training Co-ordinator was then successful in applying for, and being appointed, to the post. The post of Training Co-ordinator ceased at end of the financial year when the VSF grant funding stopped.

### **Reserves Policy**

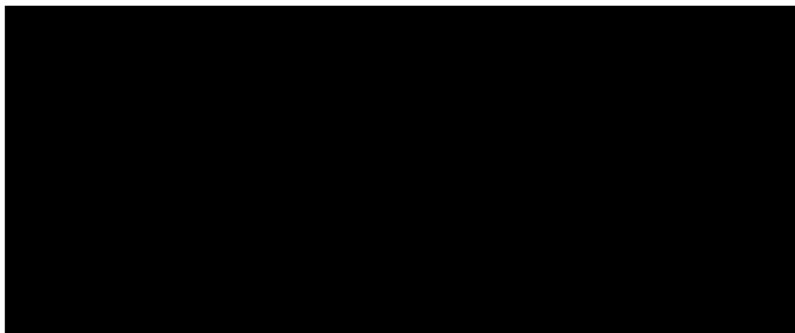
The trustees agreed a policy of holding the equivalent of three months staff costs in reserves in case of delays in achieving funding targets.

### **Future Plans**

Grant applications continue to be submitted to organisations with a view to providing funding to continue current levels of expenditure. We have been successful in securing a further Impact Funding grant totalling £20,000 - £6,000 to be paid in November 2025 for the financial year ending 31st March 2026. A further £14,000 has been awarded for the 2026/27 financial year. The majority of those funds are to be restricted towards the payment of salaries. These funds, together with other higher than expected donations received, should secure the operation of Edinburgh Street Pastors for years 2025/26 and 2026/27.

The desire of the Trustees is to move away from dependence on grants from trust funds and instead to build a broader base of supporting churches and individual supporters. This pattern has already begun as our figures show and we plan to continue this direction in the future.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf



## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Edinburgh Street Pastors**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

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

The charity's trustees 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 trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations 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.

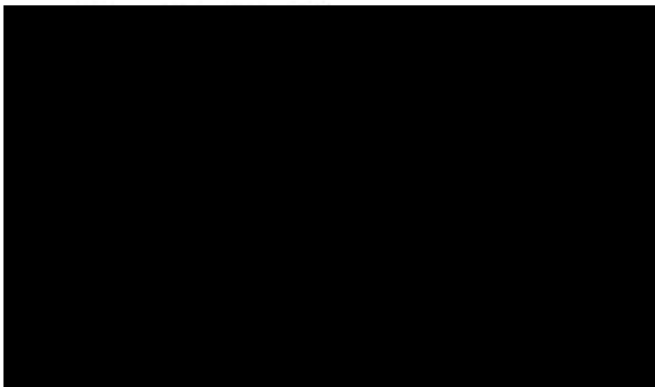
### **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations (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 seeks explanations from the trustees 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 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations 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.



**Edinburgh Street Pastors****Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31 March 2025**

			2025	2024
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>				
Donations received	19,385	-	19,385	22,684
Grants	2,800	7,182	9,982	20,800
Fundraising	-	-	-	1,431
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>22,185</b>	<b>7,182</b>	<b>29,367</b>	<b>44,915</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	27,150	7,109	34,259	41,610
Governance Costs	100	-	100	100
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>27,250</b>	<b>7,109</b>	<b>34,359</b>	<b>41,710</b>
Net (payments)/receipts	(5,065)	<b>73</b>	(4,992)	3,205
Transfers (from) / to funds	<b>73</b>	<b>(73)</b>	-	-
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	<b>(4,992)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(4,992)</b>	<b>3,205</b>

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form an integral part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf



**Edinburgh Street Pastors****Statement of Balances as at 31 March 2025**

			2025	2024
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
<b>Bank and cash in hand</b>				
Opening balances	19,099	-	19,099	15,894
Deficit for year after transfers	-4,992	-	-4,992	3,205
<b>Closing balances</b>	<b>14,107</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14,107</b>	<b>19,099</b>
<b>Bank and Cash Balances</b>				
Bank Current Account	14,107	-	14,107	19,099
<b>Other Assets</b>				
Filing Cabinets	105	-	105	105
Monitor	80	-	80	80
Laptop (training administrator)	-	409	409	409
Laptop (co-ordinator)	412	-	412	412
Office Desks	263	-	263	263
Gift Aid Receivable	989	-	989	2,184
	<b>1,849</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>2,258</b>	<b>3,453</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Ascension Trust License fee to March	1,191	-	1,191	1,504
HMRC PAYE for March	1,117	-	1,117	1,625
HMRC PAYE (2022/23)	600	-	600	535
Independent Examiners Fees	100	-	100	100
Pension contributions for March	114	-	114	167
Payroll Fees	684	-	684	611
	<b>3,806</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,806</b>	<b>4,542</b>

The Notes on page 9 to 12 form an integral part of these accounts

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by



**Notes to the Accounts - For the Year Ended 31 March 2025****1 Basis of Accounting**

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

**2 Donations**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Volunteer Contributions	4,875	-	4,875	3,879
Miscellaneous Donations	14,510		14,510	18,805
	<u>19,385</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,385</u>	<u>22,684</u>

**3 Grants**

The Robertson Trust	-	-	-	5,500
Strathardle Trust	1,800	-	1,800	1,300
Volunteer Support Fund (Impact Partners)	-	7,182	7,182	13,000
Christian Brethren Elcho Place Trust	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
	<u>2,800</u>	<u>7,182</u>	<u>9,982</u>	<u>20,800</u>

**Edinburgh Street Pastors****Notes to the Accounts - For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
<b>4 Payments relating directly to charitable activities</b>				
Franchise license fee to Ascension Trust	4,732	-	4,732	6,169
Salaries	17,582	3,407	20,989	26,297
Pension Costs	1,546	-	1,546	1,990
Training	380	350	730	747
Travel	-	46	46	41
Professional services	198	420	618	552
Insurance	-	106	106	86
Rent	1,726	494	2,220	2,100
Office supplies	938	300	1,238	1,051
Uniforms	-	786	786	938
Events	35	700	735	1,422
Marketing	13	500	513	217
	<u>27,150</u>	<u>7,109</u>	<u>34,259</u>	<u>41,610</u>

**Edinburgh Street Pastors****Notes to the Accounts - For the Year Ended 31 March 2025****5 Analysis of Funds**

<b>Fund Description</b>	<b>Opening Balance 01/04/2024</b>	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Payments</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Closing Balance 31/03/2025</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
Volunteer Support Fund	-	7,182	(7,109)	(73)	-
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,182</u>	<u>(7,109)</u>	<u>(73)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>					
General Fund	19,099	22,185	(27,250)	73	14,107
<b>Total Funds</b>	<u>19,099</u>	<u>29,367</u>	<u>(34,359)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,107</u>

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes. The following restricted funds were received, as specified by the grant providers:

The Volunteer Support Fund represents grant funding received with specific purpose of increasing the number of volunteers.

Transfers are made between funds to cover expenditure eligible under the terms of the grant funders, but in excess of the grant funds received.

## **Edinburgh Street Pastors**

### **Notes to the Accounts - For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

#### **6 Related Party Transactions**

- The organisation's insurance policy of £106 includes Trustee Indemnity Insurance for all its trustees. (2024 : £86)
- During the year two trustees (2024: two) were reimbursed event costs of £205 (2024: £110). One trustee (2024: none) was paid £100 (2024: £nil) for the training of new volunteers. During the year donations of £680 were received from three trustees (2024: £809)

#### **7 Governance Costs**

- Governance costs of £100 were incurred in the year (2024: £100). Governance costs outstanding at the year-end were £100 (2024: £100).