

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH IN ABERDEEN

(URC in Aberdeen)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

For the period 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025

Reference and administration details

Congregation Reference No. : 13D01

Charity Reference No. : SC051085

Address

27 Fairview Manor, Danestone, Aberdeen, AB22 8ZY

Trustees on date of approval of Trustees' Annual Report

Mrs Anne McCallum
Mr Forbes McCallum
Miss Alice Merrilees
Mrs Irene Merrilees
Revd Sarah Moore

Principal Office Bearers

Interim Moderator:	Revd. Sarah Moore
Secretary:	Mrs Irene Merrilees
Treasurer:	Mr Forbes McCallum

Governance

Type of governing document

A constitution based on the Model Constitution for Local Churches of the United Reformed Church (URC) has been adopted.

The Church is governed by Elders/Trustees who report to the Church Meeting.

The Church reviewed its Governing Document during the year and decided to make no changes pending recommendations which might come from a review of the Model Constitution being undertaken by the Synod of Scotland of the URC (Synod).

Trustee recruitment and appointment

In accordance with the aforementioned constitution, Elders/Trustees are elected by such methods as the Church Meeting shall from time to time determine.

Charitable Purpose

The purpose of the URC in Aberdeen is the public worship of God, Christian witness and service in accordance with the principles and usages of the United Reformed Church.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

The principal activities of the Church are the provision of monthly Sunday morning services of worship (which are open to members and non-members) and the conduct of Christian outreach activities in the community.

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the financial period

During the period the Elders/Trustees met regularly to manage the affairs of the church. The URC's Synod of Scotland (Synod) provided support for the congregation through its Transition Minister who acted as Interim Moderator. No staff are employed. The Interim Moderator had a three month sabbatical during the course of the year.

Regular services were held in Café Ahoy in Aberdeen city centre.

The trustees recognised that the size of the congregation limited its ability to conduct outreach activities. It was therefore agreed to carry out such activities in partnership with others where possible. No such activities took place during 2025. However the church made plans to undertake an investigation into Pioneer Ministry in early 2026.

The church participated in a consultation organised by the Synod regarding the establishment of a new formula for the calculation of Ministry & Mission Contributions to the URC Trust.

Financial Review

During the year 2025, the charity had total receipts of £15,210 and made total payments of £10,187. There was thus an excess of receipts over payments of £5,023 for the year. Contributions totalling £6,900 were made to the Ministry and Mission Fund of the URC Trust.

Arrangements are in place for members to make contributions to the charity by bank standing order and by Gift Aid. The Treasurer took part in an annual review of the charity's investment portfolio with the church's stockbroker, the outcome of which was shared with the Trustees. The value of the church's investments increased by 8.9% during the year.

The Church Meeting conducted a review of its Finance Policy. No changes were made.

There are no restricted or designated accounts.

In this and previous years the combined income from members' contributions and investments have been sufficient to meet anticipated expenditure in the foreseeable future. However changes to the formula for calculating Ministry and Mission contributions to the URC are expected to require some use of reserves to meet current expenditure in the future.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The church's Finance Policy provides that the charity will normally maintain a balance of not less than three months' expenses in current or instant access accounts.

Details of any deficit

None

Donated facilities and services (if any)

None

Other optional information

None

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

For the period from 1st January 2025 to 31 December 2025

	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
RECEIPTS		
Donations	4,951	5,081
Investment income	9,724	10,379
Interest	535	390
Total Receipts	15,210	15,850
PAYMENTS		
Charitable activities	2,907	6,596
Grants and donations	6,980	6,250
Governance	300	300

Total Payments	10,187	13,146
Surplus for the year	5,023	2,704

STATEMENT OF BALANCES

As at 31 December	2025	2024
	£	£
Assets		
Debtors	Nil	Nil
Cash at bank	23,392	18,369
Investments	521,278	478,787

Liabilities

Independent examiner's fee	300	300
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Notes to the accounts

	£	
Grants paid : URC Trust	6,900	6,000
Eco-Congregations	30	0
GREC	0	100
Aberdeen Churches Together	50	50
We Too	0	100

Trustee remuneration

None

Trustee expenses

Travel and subsistence expenses for one trustee	1,232
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Additional analysis

Analysis of receipts and payments

Donations

	£
Members' contributions	3,960
Gift Aid	991
Total	4,951

Payments relating directly to charitable activities

£

Room hire and catering	1,012
Insurance	313
Service expenses	1,513
Subscription	69
Total	2,907

Breakdown of unrestricted funds

Receipts

	£
Donations	4,951
Income from investments	9,724
Interest	535
Total	15,210

Payments

	£
Payments relating to charitable activities	2,907
Grants and donations	6,980
Governance	300
Total	10,187
Surplus for the year	5,023

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Irene Merrilees

Irene Merrilees, Secretary

Forbes McCallum

Forbes McCallum, Treasurer

Date _7 June 2026_____