

**Lisburn Cathedral**

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

**Registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC 101233**

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Objectives and aims**

The principal function of this Parish is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of the Parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Being open to, and engaging with, society as a whole, and offering support for those needing help are fundamental to the practical delivery of the benefits of Christianity.

All functions of the Parish relate to the expression of the Christian religion through engagement with the general public, in particular the disadvantaged, the sick, the elderly and the young and is a public benefit.

The direct benefit of participation in Church life includes the enjoyment of regular worship, giving and receiving of pastoral ministry, improved understanding of the values relating to civic engagement, community cohesion and providing a bridge between diverse groups.

In addition to the principal function, the Parish has custody of property and of records, materials and artefacts of significance to the cultural and religious heritage, the maintenance of which is undertaken by the Select Vestry of this parish.

### **Management**

All members of the Church of Ireland who are over the age of 18 and are either resident within the parish or live elsewhere but have been accustomed members of the congregation for at least three months and who give financially to the parish in an identifiable way, may register as members of the General Vestry of the parish, allowing them to stand for elected office and vote at annual meetings of the General Vestry. Meetings of the General Vestry are held at least once a year. Fourteen members of the Select Vestry are elected as part of this General Vestry meeting. The Select Vestry members will hold their positions for a period of one year. Select Vestry members may be re-elected annually and there is no limit on the number of terms which may be served. The Select Vestry meets monthly with the exception of July, August and December.

The elected Select Vestry members form the Charity Trustees, along with the current clergy, who are automatically members and two people appointed to specialist roles by the rector under the rules set out by the Church of Ireland constitution.

No trustee receives any remuneration, reward or private benefit for carrying out their trustee responsibility.

### **Public benefit**

Lisburn Cathedral seeks to engage with all of our local community through the ministries outlined below:

### **Regular Activities**

Sunday Worship: On Sunday mornings there are normally 2 services (9.30am traditional & 11.00am contemporary). Evening Services are held at key points in the year at Easter, Harvest, Christmas and for specific areas of ministry.

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)**

### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (continued)**

Children and Youth work: Parents and Toddlers, Sunday School (P4 to P7) and Sunday Night Youth (Y8+) running regular formal and informal gatherings and additional irregular events. Scouts (all sections from Beavers to Explorers) also have regular use of Cathedral facilities for weekly meetings.

Prayer: Parish prayer time, prayer ministry, parish prayer chain, prayer appointments. Monthly Prayer and Praise event on Sunday evenings.

Lisburn Community Choir & Lisburn Community Children's Choir. The community choir (a separate charity in its own right) meets on a regular basis on a Monday to rehearse in the Cathedral building.

Lisburn Community Orchestra: We support the community orchestra through use of our church hall building as their venue to meet and practise weekly.

Mission: South Lisburn Community Church - We have a committed team who work within the Hillhall and the South Lisburn wider community and they continue to expand their efforts through offering fellowship, support, worship and teaching across a range of pastoral and social issues. This work has continued to expand in 2024 with establishment of a regular Sunday worship service and a community hub – Chit Chat Café – for informal social activities and the continued development of a community spirit. The team, now lead by a full time Pioneer Minister appointed in September, have also been working with children and young people through a mentoring scheme in partnership with Transforming Lives for Good (TLG) facilitated through and in conjunction with the local primary school.

Pastoral care: Our clergy, along with our team of pastoral visitors, meet people in their homes, and particularly seek to stand alongside those with particular needs, the housebound and the bereaved.

Discipleship and Fellowship: A number of groups meet regularly providing a range of activities for fellowship, community and friendship including Housegroups, Ladies Bible study, GEM (God Enriched Moments) Women's group, Mother's Union, Alpha, Nimble Fingers, Men's Fellowship, Cameo club for our senior citizens.

Coffee Room/Honesty Café: We have a coffee room which enables anyone to come and sit in a beautiful, historic building in warm comfortable surroundings, run by volunteers. The Coffee Room currently operates once a week on Friday mornings.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Debt counselling: Lisburn Cathedral has partnered with CAP and other local churches to offer debt counselling in our area. The service we offer is free.

Foodbank: The foodbank is an ongoing project to support people from the Lisburn area whose lives have been affected by the current economic recession which we actively support.

The Charity Trustees feel that the activities entered into during the year have achieved the Parish's objectives, as well as providing public benefit as referred to in the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland guidelines.

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)**

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

#### **Financial position**

Financial reports are reviewed on an ongoing basis by the Select Vestry (Trustees) and are also reviewed on completion of the Annual Accounts. The Select Vestry presents the accounts at the annual meeting of the General Vestry prior to the elections.

Points to note during 2024 for our Parish:

- In 2024 we saw our staff change with reductions in our paid youth staff and the move of our part time minister in South Lisburn to a full time position.
- Building maintenance continues to be a notable ongoing cost, as is expected with an estate containing buildings dating from the 1600s, 1800s and 1900s.
- The planned fundraising to support remedial work on the hall is an ongoing project and as part of this we have received and spent grant funding from Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council to replace the windows in the hall. Additional funds have also been donated, however further substantial funds are needed before new work can be started.
- Our rental property, previously Gardner & Allen Opticians, has remained available for rent throughout the year. Like many properties in Lisburn there has been no demand for this unit. This has resulted in some additional costs in rates and maintenance, compounding the loss of rental income. Further options for the use of this space are currently being reviewed by the Select Vestry.
- During the year ended 31 December 2024, Total Expenditure was £399,526 and Gross Income was £451,852. Sources of Income and Expenditure incurred during the year are reflected in the Statement of Financial Activities.
- A reserve, equivalent to around 2 months' regular spending, has been maintained in 2024.

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

#### **Registered Charity number**

101233

#### **Name as shown on the Charity Commission website**

Lisburn/Lisburn Cathedral(Blaris)/ Cathedral of Christ Church, Lisburn/Connor/Church of Ireland

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (continued)**

**Principal address**

Cathedral Office  
24A Castle Street  
Lisburn  
Co. Antrim  
BT27 4XD

**Trustees**

Very Rev. Sam Wright  
Rev. Peter Meenagh  
Rev. Lee Boal

Miss Grace Broddle  
Mr David Davidson  
Mr Tam Dikibo  
Mr Rodney Dowling  
Mr Timothy Flanigan  
Mrs Heather Gibson (until 14/04/2024)  
Mr Kenneth Gibson  
Mrs Julie Harper (appointed 14/04/2024)  
Mrs Hayley Howe  
Mrs Joanne Irwin

Mrs Pam Irwin (appointed 14/04/2024)  
Mrs Jill Lester (appointed 14/04/2024)  
Mr Martin Lester  
Mr Michael McCune (until 14/04/2024)  
Mrs Rachel McIlwrath (until 14/04/2024)  
Mr Steve Martin (until 14/04/2024)  
Mr William Moore  
Mr Richard Norris  
Mr Simon Sellars  
Mr Richard Thompson

**Independent Examiner**

John McCleary FCA  
McCleary & Company Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
Garvey Studios  
14 Longstone Street  
Lisburn  
Co. Antrim  
BT28 1TP

**Bankers**

Danske Bank  
62-66 Bow Street  
Lisburn  
Co. Antrim  
BT28 1YS

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (continued)**

**Office Bearers**

Dean - Very Rev. Sam Wright

OLM (Ordained Local Minister)/Church Plant Leader - Rev. Pete Meenagh

Curate - Rev. Lee Boal

Honorary Secretary - Mrs Jill Lester (appointed 14/04/2024)

Honorary Treasurer - Mr Richard Thompson (reappointed 14/04/2024)

Peoples' Church Warden - Mr David Davidson (appointed 28/03/2023)

Rector's Church Warden - Miss Grace Broddle (until 14/04/2024)

Rector's Church Warden - Mrs Julie Harper (appointed 14/04/2024)

Rector's Glebe Warden - Mrs Heather Gibson (until 14/04/2024)

Rector's Glebe Warden - Mr Tam Dikibo (appointed 14/04/2024)

Peoples' Glebe Warden - Mr Richard Norris (appointed 28/03/2023)

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 19 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



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Rev Lee Boal

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LISBURN CATHEDRAL

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Lisburn Cathedral (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

### Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

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

### Basis of the 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 Charities Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

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

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 63 of the Charities Act.
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records.
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

### Independent examiner's statement

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



John McCleary FCA  
McCleary & Company Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
Garvey Studios  
14 Longstone Street  
Lisburn  
Co. Antrim  
BT28 1TP

19 March 2025

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>					
Donations and Legacies	<b>2</b>	262,077	168,299	430,376	318,404
Investment Income	<b>3</b>	17,282	-	17,282	17,507
Other Income	<b>4</b>	4,194	-	4,194	15,663
		<u>283,553</u>	<u>168,299</u>	<u>451,852</u>	<u>351,574</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Charitable Activities	<b>5</b>	255,732	118,645	374,377	312,400
Support Costs	<b>6</b>	24,176	973	25,149	29,594
		<u>279,908</u>	<u>119,618</u>	<u>399,526</u>	<u>341,994</u>
Net Income/(Expenditure)		3,645	48,681	52,326	9,580
Funds brought forward		<u>240,141</u>	<u>248,966</u>	<u>489,107</u>	<u>479,527</u>
Funds carried forward	<b>12</b>	<u>243,786</u>	<u>297,647</u>	<u>541,433</u>	<u>489,107</u>




Lisburn Cathedral

**BALANCE SHEET**  
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets:</b>					
Tangible assets	9	170,067	-	170,067	174,188
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	10	15,990	3,394	19,384	14,497
Cash at bank and in hand		65,419	295,468	360,887	311,403
<b>Total current assets</b>		81,409	298,862	380,271	325,900
<b>Creditors</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(7,690)	(1,215)	(8,905)	(10,981)
<b>Net current assets</b>		73,719	297,647	371,366	314,919
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		243,786	297,647	541,433	489,107
<b>Total net assets</b>		243,786	297,647	541,433	489,107
<b>Funds of the charity</b>					
Unrestricted funds	12			243,786	240,141
Restricted income funds	12			297,647	248,966
<b>Total charity funds</b>				541,433	489,107

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 19 March 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
Rev Lee Boal

  
Mr Richard Thompson

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**31 December 2024**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**BASIS OF PREPARING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

**INCOME**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

**EXPENDITURE**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Freehold property	- 2% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 10% on cost
Equipment	- 15% on cost

**TAXATION**

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

**FUND ACCOUNTING**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

**PENSION COSTS AND OTHER POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS**

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**31 December 2024**

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
Special collections and events	2,985	100,120	103,105	17,684
Freewill offerings	200,571	4,704	205,275	196,836
Gift aid	43,970	11,850	55,820	39,560
Donations	6,710	34,312	41,022	30,439
Grants	6,602	10,847	17,449	27,174
Organisations	1,239	6,465	7,704	6,711
	<u>262,077</u>	<u>168,299</u>	<u>430,376</u>	<u>318,404</u>

**3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
Deposit account interest	7,185	-	7,185	2,940
Rents received	10,097	-	10,097	14,567
	<u>17,282</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,282</u>	<u>17,507</u>

**4. OTHER INCOME**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
Sundry income	1,913	-	1,913	4,235
Other appeals	2,281	-	2,281	11,428
	<u>4,194</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,194</u>	<u>15,663</u>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**31 December 2024**

**5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
Trustees' salaries	73,448	19,702	93,149	70,378
Trustees' social security	5,749	912	6,661	2,588
Trustees' pensions paid	17,924	-	17,924	14,326
Trustees' expenses	15,000	-	15,000	11,265
Other salaries	17,607	10,000	27,608	33,906
Other social security	6	62	68	31
Other clergy pensions	-	-	-	1,836
Utility costs	23,755	-	23,755	22,337
Insurance	7,804	-	7,804	7,463
Office costs	2,963	-	2,963	2,926
Sundries	2,463	295	2,758	3,258
Parochial ministry costs	8,245	-	8,245	7,880
Repairs and maintenance	23,539	45,140	68,679	40,349
Missionary and other donations	23,658	19,404	43,061	34,191
Diocesan expenses	25,813	-	25,813	25,208
Organisations	7,759	23,130	30,889	25,733
400 year centenary expenses	-	-	-	8,725
	<u>255,732</u>	<u>118,645</u>	<u>374,377</u>	<u>312,400</u>

**6. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
Bank charges	735	38	773	725
Church cleaning	10,148	-	10,148	9,608
Legal expenses	1,701	935	2,636	2,358
IT costs	1,218	-	1,218	947
Conservation work	-	-	-	4,550
Property depreciation	4,000	-	4,000	4,000
Fixtures & fittings depreciation	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
Office equipment depreciation	2,894	-	2,894	3,069
Loss on disposal	-	-	-	929
Accountancy	2,480	-	2,480	2,408
	<u>24,176</u>	<u>973</u>	<u>25,149</u>	<u>29,594</u>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**31 December 2024**

**7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trustees' salaries	93,149	70,378
Trustees' social security	6,661	2,588
Trustees' pensions paid	17,924	14,326
	<u>117,734</u>	<u>87,292</u>

**Trustees' expenses**

During the year, trustees' reimbursements for expenses incurred and for non-trustee work carried out totalled £2,403 (2023 £8,150). Trustees' office and locomotory expenses totalled £15,000 (2023 £10,093).

**8. STAFF COSTS**

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Pastoral	4	4
Admin - support	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

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

**9. FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold property	Equipment	Fixtures & fittings	Total
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 January 2024	200,000	33,597	10,000	243,597
Additions	-	3,773	-	3,773
At 31 December 2024	<u>200,000</u>	<u>37,370</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>247,370</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 January 2024	36,000	24,409	9,000	69,409
Charge for year	4,000	2,894	1,000	7,894
At 31 December 2024	<u>40,000</u>	<u>27,303</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>77,303</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>				
At 31 December 2023	<u>164,000</u>	<u>9,188</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>174,188</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>160,000</u>	<u>10,067</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>170,067</u>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**31 December 2024**

**10. DEBTORS**

Accrued Income	10,026	5,578
Prepayments	9,358	8,919
	<u>19,384</u>	<u>14,497</u>

**11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Taxation and social security	2,524	1,607
Accruals	6,381	9,374
	<u>8,905</u>	<u>10,981</u>

**12. FUND BALANCES**

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Balance at start</b>	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Payment</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>	<b>Transfer</b>	<b>Balance at end</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
General fund	240,141	283,553	279,908	3,645	-	243,786
	<u>240,141</u>	<u>283,553</u>	<u>279,908</u>	<u>3,645</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>243,786</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
South Lisburn Community	12,444	21,227	31,595	(10,368)	-	2,076
Other Special Collections	24,615	10,077	11,249	(1,172)	(611)	22,832
Building Fund	14,075	107,466	38,094	69,372	611	84,058
SLCC Development	170,000	-	7,370	(7,370)	-	162,630
Other Organisations	27,832	29,529	31,310	(1,781)	-	26,051
	<u>248,966</u>	<u>168,299</u>	<u>119,618</u>	<u>48,681</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>297,647</u>
<b>Total fund balances</b>	<u>489,107</u>	<u>451,852</u>	<u>399,526</u>	<u>52,326</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>541,433</u>

**13. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Trustees' remuneration and expenses are detailed in Note 7. These were the only related party transactions in the year ended 31 December 2024.