PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ST NICHOLAS CHURCH, TOOTING GRAVENEY

Registered charity no: 1129352
The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Nicholas, Tooting Graveney

ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST DECEMBER 2025

The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of
St Nicholas, Tooting Graveney
Legal and Administration

Current Trustees:	Tim Dennis	Chair
	Rosemary Wilson	
	Richard Guerny	
	Pam Smith	
	Alex Fitzgerald	
	Sarah Piper	
	Beth Harries	
	Abi Philips	
	David Chamberlain	
	Wakako Hirose	
	Nicola Houghton	
	Reeta Laxman	
	Michael Paterson	
	Robert Schofied	
	Grace Waterhouse	
	Greg Ridley	
	Andy Wilson	Secretary
	Alastair Punch	

Rector:	The Revd Tim Dennis
Principal Address:	St. Nicholas Church Church Lane London SW17 9PP
Independent Examiner:	Accounting Without Borders St Mary's Court The Broadway Amersham HP7 0UT United Kingdom
Bankers:	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill, West Malling Kent ME19 4QJ

The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of
St Nicholas, Tooting Graveney
Trustees Report
For the year ended 31st December 2025

Background

The Parochial Church Council of St Nicholas, Tooting has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, Tim Dennis, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole Mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC has elected to register with the Charity Commission. The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules.

During the year, the following served as ex-officio members of the PCC:

The Incumbent	Tim Dennis, the chairman	
The Churchwardens	Rosemary Wilson	Richard Gurney

The parish representatives on the Deanery Synod (ex officio members of the PCC) were:

Pam Smith Alex Fitzgerald Sarah Piper Beth Harries

In October 2021 Rosemary Wilson was elected to the General Synod.

The members of the PCC prior to the APCM on 11th May 2025 were:

Andrea Nogueiro	Reeta Laxman	Grace Waterhouse
David Chamberlain	Michael Paterson	Lizzie Williams
Wakako Hirose	Robert Schofield	Andy Wilson
Nicola Houghton	David Thomas	Alastair Punch

The elected members of the PCC from the APCM on 11th May 2025 were:

Abi Philips	Reeta Laxman	Grace Waterhouse
David Chamberlain	Michael Paterson	Greg Ridley
Wakako Hirose	Robert Schofield	Andy Wilson
Nicola Houghton		Alastair Punch

There was one vacancy.

The PCC organises its business by general discussion as a full committee and delegation of particular tasks to committees and individuals reporting back to the PCC. The Standing Committee is the only committee required by law and has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC.

The Secretary was Andrew Wilson and the Electoral Roll Officer was Liz Buchanan. Over the last year the HR Advisor was Michael Paterson, the Safeguarding Officer was Grace Waterhouse, and the Health and Safety Officer was Liz Buchanan.

Review of the Year

Looking back on 2025 at St Nicholas, we have many reasons to give thanks to God. It has been a year of encouragement in our life together as a church, in our outreach to the local community, and in the growth of many of our ministries. We are particularly grateful for the many members of our church family who

generously give their time, energy and resources to support church life, often faithfully serving behind the scenes.

Our pattern of community outreach from 2024 continued with the return of our Pumpkin Party and Easter event, both of which attracted many local families. Christmas services and events were well attended and it was a real joy to see so many attend church at Christmas.

The Tooting Questions series continued to spark thoughtful conversations in our community, in partnership with St Mary's Summerstown. In the autumn we also launched a new course for those exploring Christianity further.

Our Engage ministry among the over-60s continues to be well supported. Weekly Bible studies and monthly Community Lunches provide regular fellowship and hot meals, and July's Holiday at Home was again a highlight, giving those unable to travel the opportunity to enjoy activities and companionship together.

The 35+ Group regular socials continued throughout the year, providing opportunities for people in this stage of life to connect and build friendships. We are especially thankful to those who have opened their homes to host these gatherings.

The Connect group (18–35s) also continued its regular pattern of lunches, brunches and social events, helping this group grow in friendship and in their understanding of God's word. The summer Connect Weekend Away was again a valuable time of strengthening relationships.

Our children's ministry continues to be a great encouragement. Sunday Club remains busy with nursery and primary-aged children, and it has been particularly encouraging to see increased stability in attendance and growth in numbers in our CYFA and Pathfinders groups, both on Sundays and at their social events.

Our Sunday teaching covered a range of topics during the year. We studied Luke, Hebrews, Philippians and had series in the books of John at Easter and Daniel at Advent. In our All-Age services we continued with a focus on the Nicene Creed.

We are also very thankful that funding has been secured for a new assistant minister for the next three years, and that we were able to send out our previous assistant minister to take up a new church leadership role in Wandsworth.

As we reflect on these blessings, we thank God for his faithfulness and guidance, and we look forward to continuing our work together in the year ahead.

Core Pastoral Ministry

Church attendance

In April 2025 a new Church Electoral Roll was prepared there are now 130 on the electoral roll.

The average Sunday attendance in 2025 was 188 adults and children, across all of our activities.

Children and Youth

Holiday Club

At the end of August we ran an action-packed, pirate themed holiday club with around 30 primary-school-aged children from Tooting. This took place over the course of three mornings, with a Sunday Celebration service with BBQ as usual. A lot of fun was had with pirate themed crafts and games. We were grateful for enough volunteers to allow the small group bible study times to be well structed and appropriate for different aged/ability children in each group. It was great to see children learning about Jesus and hosting their families at the BBQ.

Sunday Club (3-11 yrs)

We have continued to run Sunday Club, which have been attended by an average of 24 children (ranging between 10-39), with some weeks exceeding this number. Praise God for so many children learning about Jesus week on week. We are grateful for the Sunday Club leaders who joyfully serve in this ministry, especially as it requires preparation during the week and attending church both in the morning and the evening.

Pathfinders (11-14 yrs)

2025 was a great year for Pathfinders. We enjoyed a number of socials including a murder mystery scavenger hunt around London in the summer, where the two teams were mere seconds apart in their finishing times! We also loved our 'All In' evening hosted at St Nics with other local churches where Rico Tice encouraged our young people how to be all in with their faith. We hope to have these more regularly to enable friendships between the churches and encourage the young people in their journeys of faith.

We have welcomed several new members to Pathfinders, both those who have moved up from Sunday Club and new joiners. The group has gelled well as a whole and the young people are very chatty with each other, eager to catch up each week. We enjoyed time in Ephesians and the beginnings of a Bible Overview video series. It has been wonderful to see the Pathfinders growing in their faith over the year and sharing their struggles with one another.

Our leaders team is strong and encouraging and it has been a joy to work together and get to know the Pathfinders over time. Overall it has been a great year and we pray for 2026 to be a year of deepening and strengthening.

CYFA (14-18 yrs)

The CYFA group continues to be an encouragement to the leaders. We celebrated a few CYFA members taking steps of faith with their confirmations in February. Another highlight this year included the second annual CYFA weekend away to The West Watch Trust in Sussex where the teens got to know each other better through games, activities and social time, as well as time in God’s word. We dug into the book of Daniel (which continued a teaching series from the autumn term) and unpacked tricky issues about what the Bible teaches about sex and relationships in a seminar. Since then we've been studying the book of James at CYFA on Sundays, discussing how God calls us to live as Christians today.

Another highlight this year has been welcoming three new leaders to the CYFA leaders team (an answer to our prayers/need). Attendance has fluctuated between 3 and 9 teens each Sunday, meaning group dynamics are sometimes challenging and we are keen to keep momentum up. The teenagers all live very busy lives at school and the weekend and we encourage families to prioritise Sunday services above CYFA if teens only have time to attend one thing each Sunday. We are always open to changing the format of CYFA to make it easier for families.

We would love the wider church family to join with supporting the discipleship of the CYFA group by getting alongside the teens and chatting to them when they are with their families at church, to help them know they are valued individuals in the St Nic's church family.

Connect

Connect is our 18–35s community. We're seeking to help one another Connect with God, Connect with each other and Connect with our communities — discipleship, friendship, and evangelism woven together.

Over the course of the month, we gather in a couple different ways to serve those aims. Usually that means a Sunday lunch kindly hosted by a church family, a Saturday brunch with some teaching and discussion around a live issue, and time together socially. Recent brunch themes have included union with Christ applied to different areas of life, and thinking carefully about how to speak about Jesus with friends from other faith backgrounds.

It's been a real encouragement to see new people join, as well as established people grow in depth of relationships and shared joy in Christ. Many within the group are serving faithfully across church life, and we're very thankful for their presence and contribution. As we look ahead, we're keen to keep strengthening the culture of friendship and spiritual growth, and are thinking about how we can better gather, support and disciple younger adults in this season of life.

Each summer we've also been able to head away together for a Connect weekend in Kent for a weekend of teaching and fellowship. Plans are already underway for this year's weekend, and we're looking forward to it.

Small Group Ministries

In term time we have continued to run weekly house group Bible studies on Tuesday evenings. These have followed our sermon series topics and around 70 people have signed up to attend a small group.

We used the same resources in 2 of our women's Bible study groups – one meeting on a Tuesday morning with a crèche and one meeting on a Wednesday evening via Zoom, to enable women to be part of a group who would otherwise struggle to be.

Our monthly prayer and small group central meetings have provided opportunities to come together as a larger group to pray and think more deeply about Christian issues, helped by a variety of guest speakers.

Local Mission

Engage (Over 60s)

Engage Bible Studies

We meet every Thursday except the first of the month, we have approximately 28 members on the role and our weekly attendance is normally about 24. In 2025 we studied Luke, Zachariah Titus and Daniel. We study in small groups led by one of the members and also spend some time in prayer. At the end of December 2025 we thanked Richard for his many years of service as he was retiring from Engage Bible study and our Assistant Minister has taken his place. We keep in regular contact with members of Engage bible study through weekly phone calls.

Engage Special Events

We had 3 days of Holiday at Home in July with a gospel talk based on well known hymns, a cooked lunch and activities. On the last day we were treated to a concert by some of our very talented young musicians. Around 50 people attended each day.
In December we had our annual Christmas dinner, Tim gave a seasonal thought and then we had turkey and all the trimmings. Almost 90 people attended the event.

Engage Community Lunch

We meet throughout the year on the first Thursday of each month for a hearty cooked lunch and Gospel-centred thought for the day.

This is followed by a range of popular activities including Scrabble, jigsaws, assorted crafts, reading corner and indoor sports, all with the aim of promoting friendship and fellowship amongst everyone who comes.

Our team of dedicated volunteers from the church family help set up and clear away, prepare and cook lunch, host, lead and participate in all the activities for the more than 50 or so over 60's who regularly attend. The team are always so grateful for more volunteers to help us run this vibrant work for seniors in the community.

Outreach

Over the last year it has been encouraging to be able to continue increase our connection with the local community. The Easter Event, Pumpkin Party and Christmas in the Yard events were really well attended by those who live nearby. It was a particular highlight to be able to welcome children and young people from two local primary schools and a local secondary school to sing and play at the Christmas in the Yard event.

Our toddler and baby, stay and play group, Friday Frogs continues to grow and is at capacity most weeks. The 'Bumps and Babies' group has also attracted a good number of people week by week and receives regular positive feedback. Our Book Table continues to engage with people on the high street on the 3rd Saturday each month. We started a door knocking team on the 4th Sunday of the month in partnership with London City Mission, which has lead to good conversations in the local community.

We continued to make the most of events throughout the calendar with a number of guest services throughout the year, in addition to outsider friendly services at Easter and Christmas. The Engage Holiday at Home event and our Holiday Bible club were attended by those within and outside the church family. Our Easter and Christmas services were very well attended and again saw an increase in numbers from the previous year.

For those exploring Christianity we continued our Tooting Questions series with two more events in January and October and also started a small group in the autumn meeting in the church on Thursday evenings.

We have had regard to the Charity Commission public benefit guidance.

Deanery Synod

The year began with a focus on 'Youth & Children' to discuss and share parish perspectives, activities and challenges in relation to the Diocesan Strategy on 'Youth & Diversity.' Imani McEwen from the Southwark Diocesan Children and Youth team attended that meeting. The strategy states:

"We are committed to becoming a younger, more diverse Diocese. We wish to see our churches evolve to better reflect the communities in which they serve and the gifts of the whole people of God. Developing our engagement with children, families and young people across home, school and church life."

In response to a focus on children and young people, guidance and support was requested for working with children with Special Educational Needs. Organisations recommended by Imani McEwen, included: growinghope.org.uk which is willing to lead training sessions.

A highlight for Tooting Deanery Synod was to be congratulated by Bishop Martin for the highest 'Eco-footprint' returns at 91%, the next highest being a return of 88%.

St. Nicholas represented well in its written submission of a range of community outreach activities; these will be shared across the Tooting Deanery Synod in a compilation of such activities across the Deanery.

Activities to which all church family members were invited included:

- a conference in September 2025 at St. Cecilia's C of E school: "Confident Faith in a Changing World" with a keynote address by former Archbishop Rowan Williams.
- a conference in February 2026 at Southwark Cathedral focused on racial justice: "Truth Telling in Sacred Spaces."

To return to the theme of children and young people, a highly stimulating presentation was given by Dr Rev Nadim Nassar who used the context of having survived death five times during wars in Syria, his birthplace as the catalyst for the charity he founded which works with children and young people. This Christian charity supports traumatised children from any faith background with activities ranging from developing artistic gifts to exploring democracy.

General Synod

One of our Churchwardens continued in their role of General Synod Lay Rep for the Diocese of Southwark and attending sessions as held in 2025. They continued their role as a Working Group Member for Pastoral Reassurance in response to the possibility of Prayers of Love and Faith, an issue which was also discussed extensively at Synod. Safeguarding and the Clergy Conduct Measure were also pieces of significant legislative business.

Fabric Report

We continue to be grateful for the building we have, and we pray that we might be able to maintain, upgrade and use it more effectively for serving the community and growing the work of the gospel in Tooting. We are also grateful for the Building Action Group (BAG) for their continued work behind the scenes in this regard.

In 2025 the following topics were discussed:

- Base flooding and drainage
- Redevelopment of the church building (including a meeting with the DAC to discuss next steps)
- Necessary works inside the auditorium to improve accessibility and appear of the chancel dais and vestry)
- Options for the replacement of the heating system
- Quotes for the replacement of the kitchen
- The annual maintenance list

Annual maintenance and building checks were carried out. The church gate post was repaired and minor maintenance works were undertaken in the church building.

Larger proposed works for 2026 include:

- The painting of the upper hall
- Upgrade to the kitchen
- Addition of two TV screens in the forum to replace the old overhead projector screen

Governance

PCC and its Subcommittees

The PCC met 7 times in 2025 (6 full meetings and one short meeting after the APCM) and average attendance was 77 percent. There was also a PCC discussion morning on the 18th October 2025. We continue to praise God for Jesus-centred discussions and good disagreement on the PCC over this last year and for good progress across a wide range of areas. This year, among other things, PCC discussions have focused on:

- Staffing and pay
- Church governance
- The building
- Finances and giving
- The Church of England

Sub-committees of the PCC met between meetings and minutes of their meetings were received by the PCC and discussed as necessary. Those sub-committees, were:

1. The Standing Committee, comprising the meetings of the Standing Committee and the Finance Committee, consisting of the Rector, Wardens, Elizabeth Williams (until May 2025), Grace Waterhouse (from May 2025) and Pam Smith with Liz attending as Director of Operations and taking minutes.
2. Building Action Group, consisting of PCC and non-PCC members and chaired by Christian Dimbleby.
3. World Mission Committee, consisting of PCC and non-PCC members and chaired by Sarah Piper.

Safeguarding

'The care and protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of the whole Church. Everyone who participates in the life of the Church has a role to play…' CofE House of Bishops (2017) Promoting a Safer Church.

The Safeguarding Officer was Grace Waterhouse, with the Core Safeguarding Team being made up of the PSO, Rector and Women's Worker. Additional administrative support was provided by Jane Dennis as DBS Administrator, and by members of the staff team.

We thank God for no significant safeguarding issues being raised over the past year. We have worked closely with the Diocese Safeguarding team and other local bodies, and, alongside day to day safeguarding responsibilities, the focus for the year has been on firming up reporting responsibilities and safeguarding training of the core team and those involved in caring roles.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Financial review for the year ending 31 December 2025

Income decreased from 2024 by 2%, this was due some small decreases in unplanned ad-hoc personal giving. Planned giving rose 9%, mainly due to existing givers increasing giving and unplanned giving dropped by 71%.

Total expenditure increased by 9%. This was largely driven by an increase in the payment of the Parish Support Fund directly to the Diocese and Pastoral Staff costs. Pastoral Staff cost increase was offset by the receipt of a grant from the Amen Corner Trust.

The combined impact was that overall funds decreased by £50,709.

Reserves

The PCC's policy is to hold free reserves equivalent to two months of expenditure. These reserves are held to mitigate the risk of an unexpected drop in income or large expenditure e.g. unexpected and expensive building repairs. For 2024 this policy would require around £61,000 in free reserves. Total funds at 31 December 2025 were around £42,364, of which none is restricted.

Looking ahead

The 2026 budget is currently showing a maintenance of the reserve level from 2025. However, this position is being closely monitored by the PCC and there will be a re-budgeting process mid year to cut expenditure if income does not increase. We are largely depending on the generosity of our congregation for our income.

Principal Financial and Non-Financial Risks

The principal risks include: compliance with policy and legislation due to our being a small and majority volunteer organisation, dependence on volunteers to fulfil the aims of our Charity, departure from orthodox Christian faith among our own or wider church leadership; a major safeguarding incident; being unable to recruit/retain good staff; and major repairs needed to our historic building. The PCC does its best to ensure that time is set aside specifically for the ministry of the Word and prayer; gives safeguarding training to all those working with children and vulnerable adults; and a PCC sub-committee, the Building Action Group, is active in monitoring and planning to improve the church building.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.
In preparing these financial statements the Trustees are required to
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act. 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 Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of
St Nicholas, Tooting Graveney
Trustees Report
For the year ended 31st December 2025

Key controls used by the Church
The church follows good practice guidelines appropriate to charities of its size. These include

Governance
- Annual planning by the Trustees, with key aims, objectives and priorities.
- Maintenance of a Risk Register
- Regular conversations on performance
- Regular meetings of Trustees with reports and minutes

Finance
Trustees are responsible to
- monitor budget setting and controls, with regular reporting.
- ensure adequate reserves policy and review annually.
- ensure a range of income sources including individuals, churches, trusts and rental income.

Compliance with the law and regulations.
The trustees ensure up-to-date knowledge of charity requirements, employment laws and taxation requirements.

Independent Examiner
Accounting Without Borders were appointed as the charity's examiners during the year.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities and in accordance with the Charities Act.

Rev Tim Dennis

Revd Tim Dennis, Rector
Date: May 20 2026

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of
The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of
St Nicholas, Tooting Graveney

I report on the accounts of The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of St Nicholas, Tooting Graveney for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner
The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under charity law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement
In connection with 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 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

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.

Manish Panjabi

Manish Panjabi
Accounting Without Borders
St Mary's Court, The Broadway
Amersham HP7 0UT
United Kingdom

The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of
St Nicholas, Tooting Graveney
Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31st December 2025

Statement of Financial Activities

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
INCOME					
Voluntary income	2	297,517	30,463	327,980	333,737
Income from church activities	2	10,550	-	10,550	9,613
Income from other activities	2	9,521	-	9,521	10,060
Income from investments	2	1,826	-	1,826	2,957
		319,413	30,463	349,876	356,367
EXPENDITURE					
Raising funds	3	-	-	-	(56)
Charitable activities	3	(369,271)	(30,536)	(399,807)	(365,419)
		(369,271)	(30,536)	(399,807)	(365,474)
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE)		(49,858)	(73)	(49,931)	(9,108)
Transfers between funds	6	-	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(49,858)	(73)	(49,931)	(9,108)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		92,222	74	92,296	101,403
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		**42,364**	**0**	**42,364**	**92,296**

All transactions are derived from continuing activities.
All recognised gains and losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of
St Nicholas, Tooting Graveney
Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31st December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
INCOME				
Voluntary income	2	312,920	20,817	333,737
Income from church activities	2	9,613	-	9,613
Income from other activities	2	10,060	-	10,060
Income from investments	2	2,957	-	2,957
		335,550	20,817	356,367
EXPENDITURE				
Raising funds	3	(56)	-	(56)
Charitable activities	3	(326,055)	(39,363)	(365,419)
		(326,111)	(39,363)	(365,474)
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE)		9,438	(18,546)	(9,108)
Transfers between funds	6	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		9,438	(18,546)	(9,108)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward		82,784	18,620	101,403
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		**92,222**	**74**	**92,296**

All transactions are derived from continuing activities.
All recognised gains and losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of
St Nicholas, Tooting Graveney
Balance Sheet at 31st December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
FIXED ASSETS	9	1,743	1,280	3,023	5,397
CURRENT ASSETS	10				
Debtors		55,611	800	56,411	42,261
Cash at bank and in hand		42,605	(2,080)	40,525	71,108
		98,215	(1,280)	96,935	113,368
LIABILITIES	11				
Due within 12 months		(57,594)	-	(57,594)	(26,469)
		(57,594)	-	(57,594)	(26,469)
NET ASSETS		**42,364**	**0**	**42,364**	**92,296**
FUNDS		**42,364**	**0**	**42,364**	**92,296**

The notes on the following pages form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council and signed on its behalf by

Rev Tim Dennis

Revd Tim Dennis, Rector

Dated: May 20 2026

Note 1: Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation
The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the applicable accounting standard (FRS102), the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities (SORP 2019), the Charities Act 2011, the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions.

The trustees consider there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. This judgement is reached based on the current state of reserves and reasonable anticipation of future giving from church members.

Income
- Income is recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to it, ultimate receipt is probable, and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.
- **Grants received** are recognised when the funds are received unless pre-conditions for entitlement specified by the donor have not been met. In accordance with SORP 2019, those conditions do not include restrictions on use. Where a donor requests a refund of their grant or donation, this is shown as a reduction in net income.
- **Gifts in kind of facilities and services** are recognised at the lower of market value or what the PCC would otherwise have paid. These are only included where material and an estimate can be reliably made. Income and expenditure are recognised at the time the service is used. The main inclusions are estimates for housing received for free or below market rent, and for the independent examination of the accounts. The PCC is very grateful to these donors.
- **Services provided by volunteers** account for a very considerable share of the church's activities, including children's and youth work, most aspects of Sunday services, and reaching out to our community in Jesus' name. The PCC is very grateful to all those who serve in all capacities. These services are not given a financial value in the accounts unless the service is supplied by a volunteer as part of their trade or profession such that the value could be reliably measured, in line with SORP 2019, in which case they would be included as gifts in kind.

Expenditure
- Expenditure is recognised on the accruals basis.
- **Claims for reimbursement of expenditure** incurred by individuals on the PCC's behalf are recognised when received (normally this means when received and approved by a church warden).
- **Grants made** are recognised when promised, unless performance conditions attach (which is not generally the case with our grants). However, there are two exceptions, as recommended by the diocese: our payments to the diocese and our payments to the Ephesians Fund are recognised in the year when they are due to be paid.
- **Support costs** are allocated to the activity to which they most closely relate. Further details are provided in the relevant note below.

Assets and Liabilities
- **Consecrated and benefice property** of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of "charity" by Section 10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011 and therefore not included in the accounts. However, the cost of improving, maintaining and insuring such property is borne by the PCC and charged to expenditure.
- **Fixed assets** are capitalised where they cost over £2,000 and are expected to provide valuable use for more than one year. They are valued at cost or, for gifts in kind, at a reasonable estimate of their open market value on receipt. Depreciation is calculated over 5 years on a straight-line basis, with a full year in the year of addition, none in the year of disposal. Fixed assets with nil carrying value at the start of the financial year are excluded in entirety from the financial statements.
- **Debtors** are recognised when legally due, receipt is probable and capable of being reliably measured. They are measured at settlement amount and not discounted for time.

- **Cash at bank and in hand** comprises all cash and bank deposits held by the PCC which can be accessed within 12 months.
- **Liabilities** are recognised where the PCC has a present obligation resulting from a past event which will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. They are measured at settlement amount and not discounted for time.
- **Funds received as agent** comprise funds received by the PCC on behalf of another body (most commonly statutory fees for weddings and funerals received on behalf of the Diocese), which are then paid out to that body. These are not recognised as income or expenditure.

Funds

- **Unrestricted funds** represent the income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC.
- **Restricted funds** are income funds where the donor has given a specific purpose. Details of the funds held and applicable restrictions are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Note 2: Income

	Unrestricted Funds 2025	Restricted Funds 2025	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
VOLUNTARY INCOME				
Planned giving	216,388	500	216,888	198,961
Unplanned giving	12,274	300	12,574	42,458
Gift Aid	50,056	-	50,056	53,274
Grants	800	29,663	30,463	21,044
Gifts in kind	18,000	-	18,000	18,000
	297,517	30,463	327,980	333,737
INCOME FROM CHURCH ACTIVITIES				
Statutory fees from weddings etc	1,883	-	1,883	680
Other income from Core Pastoral Ministry	2,616	-	2,616	2,972
Local Mission	5,866	-	5,866	5,862
Other	184	-	184	100
	10,550	-	10,550	9,613
INCOME FROM OTHER ACTIVITIES				
Lettings	9,515	-	9,515	9,980
Other fundraising	6	-	6	80
	9,521	-	9,521	10,060
INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS				
Bank interest	1,826	-	1,826	2,957
	1,826	-	1,826	2,957
TOTAL INCOME	**319,413**	**30,463**	**349,876**	**356,367**

£29,663 was received as a grant from the Amen Corner Trust towards our pastoral costs, £500 was received as a private donation for fixing the gatepost. No income was received from government contracts. There were around 80 individual donors.

Note 3: Expenditure

	Unrestricted					Restricted						
	Direct costs £	Grants £	Total excl support £	Support Costs £	**Total 2025** £	Direct costs £	Grants £	Total excl support £	Support Costs £	**Total 2025** £	**Total 2025** £	**Total 2024** £
RAISING FUNDS	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**56**
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES												
Core Pastoral Ministry	117,640	54,150	171,790	66,737	**238,527**	29,663	-	29,663	-	**29,663**	**268,190**	**243,815**
Local Mission	11,548	534	12,082	8,078	**20,160**	373	-	373	-	**373**	**20,533**	**17,456**
Gospel Partners	-	64,500	64,500	1,337	**65,837**	-	-	-	-	**-**	**65,837**	**46,342**
Church Building												
General running costs	36,666	-	36,666	8,580	45,246	-	-	-	-	-	45,246	47,386
Planned projects	(500)	-	(500)	-	(500)	500	-	500	-	500	-	10,420
	36,166	-	36,166	8,580	**44,746**	500	-	500	-	**500**	**45,246**	**57,806**
Total Charitable Activities	**165,354**	**119,184**	**284,538**	**84,733**	**369,271**	**30,536**	**-**	**30,536**	**-**	**30,536**	**399,807**	**365,419**
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	**165,354**	**119,184**	**284,538**	**84,733**	**369,271**	**30,536**	**-**	**30,536**	**-**	**30,536**	**399,807**	**365,474**

Note 4: Grants made

	New commitments £
CORE PASTORAL MINISTRY	
Southwark Diocese	£54,150
	£54,150
GOSPEL PARTNERS	
Mission in Southwark	
Remaining 2025 Parish Share payment (St Marks Mitcham)	6,700
remaining 2025 Parish Share to church partnerships (St Marys Summerstown)	28,800
	£35,500
Other mission partners	
London City Mission (LCM)	£2,284.00
SIM International UK	£6,000.00
Langham Partnership UK & I	£4,000.00
Crosslinks	£4,000.00
UCCF	£2,000.00
Stream Collective	£2,000.00
Open Doors	£2,000.00
London Gospel Partnership	£250.00
Novo (Refectio)	£1,000.00
Medair	£6,000.00
	£ 29,534
TOTAL GRANTS MADE	**£ 119,184**

All grants are to institutions, however some to "other mission partners" are restricted donations to individuals and are paid directly to them when that is the request of the institution. This policy is approved by the Mission Committee.

Support costs relating to grant-making activity are those for Gospel Partners (see note 3). Most of such support is in any event provided by volunteers.

Grants to Southwark Diocese cover their total request for the Parish Support Fund (PSF), these are £54,150 in core pastoral ministry and £35,500 to cover the shortfall in core pastoral ministry costs for two local churches, St Mary's Summerstown and St Marks Mitcham. This totals £89,650 (2024: £71,200). The rise is due to a PCC decision in 2024 to use money from the PSF request to cover costs for the Minister in Training, whereas in 2025 al PSF monies were transferred to the Diocese of Southwark via the Ephesians Fund. These grants are unrestricted; however, in line with activity-based reporting, they have been apportioned in these financial statements to their likely uses in relation to the mission and charitable aims of St Nicholas Tooting as shown above. Those under "core pastoral ministry" relate to the Rector's costs including housing.

The £6000 to Medair covers the 2024 and 2025 grants. Some grants shown as allocated to other mission partners have been allocated but not made in 2025 as we are awaiting the HMRC Gift Aid payments. These will be made in 2026.

Note 5: Allocation of support costs

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £	Basis of allocation to activities
Governance	36	-	36	1,440	Expenditure
Diocese overheads	-	-	-	-	Expenditure
Admin staff	78,200	-	78,200	64,512	Time
Other admin	6,497	-	6,497	8,736	Expenditure
	84,733	**-**	**84,733**	**74,688**	

Most support is provided by volunteers, for which the PCC is very grateful. Whilst it is difficult to count exactly how many people volunteer as so much support is provided in so many different ways, there are approximately 70 excluding trustees, and this is the figure reported to the Charity Commission for the number of volunteers excluding trustees.

Note 6: Summary of fund movements

	At start of year £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At end of year £
Pastoral staff costs	-	29,663	(29,663)		-
Engage	0	300	(300)		0
Minister in training	0	-	-		0
Community events	73	-	(73)		0
Building Projects	0	500	(500)		0
Total Restricted Funds	**74**	30,463	(30,536)	-	0
Total Unrestricted Funds	**92,222**	319,413	(369,271)	-	42,364
TOTAL FUNDS	**92,296**	349,876	(399,807)	-	**42,364**

Funds are as described above.

The small amount in the Community Events fund has been used for the Christmas in the depreciation on the outdoor PA equipment (purchased under a grant to this fund in 2023) has been charged to the fund in 2025. As this fund has been exhausted the remainder of this depreciation has been moved to general Outreach expenses. The Building Projects fund comprise a grant given for the repair of the gateposts. The Pastoral Staff fund is a grant from the Amen Corner Trust. The Engage Fund was a grant from The Gassiot Trust for Engage Community Lunch.

Note 7: Staff costs

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Salaries	136,245	131,966
Employer pension contributions	13,000	11,564
Social security	4,527	7,420
Accommodation (including implicit value)	52,488	29,749
	206,260	**180,700**

The average headcount was 6 (2024: 6), in addition to the Rector who is not a member of staff. Headcount includes our cleaner. The PCC operates a defined contribution pension scheme; its costs are allocated to activities in the same proportion as associated staff costs and a proportionate share is paid from the relevant restricted fund if appropriate.

Note 8: Trustees and Related Parties

Trustees' remuneration, expenses and donations
The charity's trustees are the PCC members. None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration for their role as a member of the PCC. The Rector is not an employee of the PCC.

One trustee was employed by the PCC in a pastoral role, for the whole year: Sarah Piper, who became a trustee by virtue of her membership of Deanery Synod. The legal authority for this arrangement is Section 3A of the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. In line with the PCC's aim to treat her as equivalent to a curate for pay and conditions, total benefits were £66,122: gross pay and pension contributions were £36,297 and accommodation was estimated to be worth £29,825, of which £18,000 was a gift in kind. She was not remunerated for being a trustee.

No trustee had expenses met by the charity to help them fulfil their duties as a trustee.

Monetary donations totalling approximately £68,408 were known to be received from trustees. Donations received anonymously cannot be ascribed. None came with conditions (excluding special appeals).

Related parties
Dave Chamberlain's wife, Erin, was employed by the PCC from September 2024. Gross pay and pension in 2025 was £6558.

Tim Dennis is a trustee of Stream Collective which received a £2000 grant.

Independent Examiner
The independent examiner did not provide any other assurance services, tax advisory services or other financial services other our accounting and payroll software.

Note 9: Fixed Assets

	Equipment (unrestricted)	Equipment (restricted)	TOTAL
	£	£	£
Actual cost			
At start of year	8,667	3,201	11,867
Additions	-	-	-
At end of year	8,667	3,201	11,867
Depreciation			
At start of year	(5,190)	(28,391)	(33,581)
Charge for year	(1,733)	(640)	(2,373)
At end of year	(6,924)	(1,921)	(35,955)
Net book value			
At start of year	3,476	1,921	5,397
At end of year	1,743	1,280	3,023

Note 10: Current Assets

	Unrestricted Funds 2025	Restricted Funds 2025	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Debtors				
Gift Aid not yet claimed or paid	49,974	-	49,974	38,219
Trade debtors	1,995	-	1,995	-
Grant due but not paid	-	800	800	400
Prepayments and accrued income	3,642	-	3,642	3,642
	55,611	800	56,411	42,261
Cash at bank and in hand	42,513	(2,080)	40,433	71,108
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	**98,124**	**(1,280)**	**96,844**	**113,368**

Note 11: Liabilities

	Unrestricted Funds 2025	Restricted Funds 2025	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Liabilities due within 12 months				
Accruals for grants payable	(47,519)	-	(47,519)	(21,000)
Trade creditors	(3,434)	-	(3,434)	(2,038)
Accruals and deferred income	-	-	-	-
Taxation and social security	(3,520)	-	(3,520)	(2,975)
	(27)	-	(27)	-
	(1,411)	-	(1,411)	-
Payroll liabilities	(1,438)	-	(1,438)	-
Funds received as agent	(1,683)	-	(1,683)	(456)
	(57,594)	-	(57,594)	(26,469)

Liabilities due beyond 12 months				
Accruals for grants payable	-	-	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	**(57,594)**	**-**	**(57,594)**	**(26,469)**

LETTER OF REPRESENTATION

The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of
St Nicholas, Tooting Graveney
St. Nicholas Church
Church Lane
London
SW17 9PP

Accounting Without Borders
St Mary's Court
The Broadway
Amersham
HP7 0UT

Dear Sirs,

This representation letter is provided in connection with your independent examination of the financial statements of The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of St Nicholas, Tooting Graveney for the year ended 31 December 2025.

We confirm that the following representations are made to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made appropriate enquiries of those responsible for financial and accounting matters and, where relevant, having inspected supporting documentation.

General

- We acknowledge our responsibility for maintaining adequate accounting records in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity at any time.
- We acknowledge our responsibility for the preparation of financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards (UK GAAP, including the Charities SORP (FRS 102)).
- We confirm that the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis and, in our opinion, give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities and position.
- We acknowledge our responsibility for establishing and maintaining appropriate systems of internal control to safeguard the assets of the charity and to prevent and detect fraud and error.
- We confirm that the accounting policies selected are appropriate to the charity's circumstances, have been applied consistently, and that the judgements and estimates made are reasonable and prudent.

Information Provided

- We confirm that we have provided you with:
  a) Access to all accounting records, documentation, and other relevant information;
  b) All additional information requested for the purposes of the independent examination; and
  c) Unrestricted access to individuals within the charity from whom you considered it necessary to obtain evidence.

- We confirm that all transactions undertaken by the charity have been properly recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
- We confirm that we have disclosed all related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.

Assets and Liabilities

- We confirm that all known assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date have been included in the financial statements.
- We confirm that the charity has satisfactory title to its assets and that there are no undisclosed liens or encumbrances.
- We confirm that all actual and contingent liabilities, including guarantees where applicable, have been properly recorded or disclosed.
- We confirm that grant commitments recognised in the accounts represent formal obligations that had been approved and communicated prior to the year-end.

Income and Expenditure

- We confirm that income, including donations and Gift Aid, has been recognised in accordance with applicable accounting policies and that any amounts accrued are, to the best of our knowledge, recoverable.
- We confirm that all expenditure, including grants made, has been applied in furtherance of the charity's objectives and in accordance with trustee approvals.
- We confirm that appropriate records are maintained to support grant-making decisions, including where funds are designated for specific individuals through partner organisations.

Bank and Cash

- We confirm that bank and cash balances included in the financial statements are complete and accurate. Where formal reconciliations have not been prepared throughout the year, we confirm that we have reviewed the year-end balances and are satisfied that they are not materially misstated.

Fraud and Irregularities

- We acknowledge our responsibility for the design and implementation of internal controls to prevent and detect fraud.
- We confirm that we have disclosed to you:
    - The results of our assessment of the risk of material misstatement due to fraud;
    - Any known or suspected fraud affecting the charity involving management, employees, or third parties; and
    - Any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud communicated to us.

Compliance with Laws and Regulations

- We confirm that we have complied with applicable laws and regulations, including those governing charities, and have disclosed to you any known instances of non-compliance that may affect the financial statements.

Going Concern

- We confirm that, having considered the charity's financial position and future plans, we believe the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future (being at least 12 months from approval of the financial statements).

Post Balance Sheet Events

- We confirm that all events occurring after the reporting date which require adjustment or disclosure have been appropriately reflected in the financial statements.

Data Protection

- We confirm that the charity has complied with applicable data protection legislation during the year.

Please confirm your agreement to the above by signing and returning a copy of this letter.

Yours faithfully
For and on behalf of Management

Rev Tim Dennis

May 20 2026

....
Trustee Date

The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of St Nicholas, Tooting Graveney

POST-EXAMINATION MANAGEMENT REPORT

Year Ended 31 December 2025

Post Examination Management Report

We have completed our independent examination in accordance with the directions of the Charity Commission of The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of St Nicholas, Tooting Graveney for the year ended 31 December 2025.

This report covers the findings from our examination. It includes some recommendations for improving the accounting and internal control systems as well as highlighting some future developments that may be of interest to the board.

We hope that the recommendations are practical and are able to be implemented. We would be grateful if you could discuss the points as a board and will welcome a written response. Please extend our thanks to The Revd Tim Dennis, Elizabeth Buchanan for all the help with the examination.

If you have any concerns or questions arising from this report, please contact Manish Panjabi.

Yours faithfully,

Accounting Without Borders

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Our Approach ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Significant findings from the examination ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Corrected misstatements and reclassifications ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Uncorrected immaterial misstatements and reclassifications ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Sector Updates ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

This report has been prepared for the sole use of the board of The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of

St Nicholas, Tooting Graveney and must not be shown to any third parties without our prior consent. No responsibility is accepted by Accounting Without Borders towards any third party acting or refraining from action as a result of this report.

Our Approach

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view'.

Significant findings from the examination

We recommend that all identified misstatements are reviewed and corrected where appropriate. As part of our independent examination, we have identified the following areas where processes and controls could be strengthened. These points do not affect our overall opinion but are provided to support good governance and financial management:

1. Bank and Cash Reconciliations

We noted that bank and cash accounts were not formally reconciled during the year. Regular reconciliations are an important internal control to ensure the accuracy and completeness of financial records.

Recommendation: At a minimum, bank and cash accounts should be reconciled at the year-end, with a view to implementing periodic (e.g. monthly or quarterly) reconciliations going forward.

2. Grant Recognition and Commitments

We noted that certain grant commitments are recorded as liabilities in advance of payment.

Recommendation: The charity should ensure that grants are only recognised as liabilities where there is a formal and communicated obligation. Clear documentation of approvals and commitments should be maintained.

3. Grant-Making Documentation and Audit Trail

While a mission giving policy is in place, documentation supporting individual grant decisions (particularly where funds are designated for specific individuals via partner organisations) could be further strengthened.

Recommendation: Maintain clear records of grant approvals, purpose, and any supporting requests or correspondence to enhance transparency and accountability.

4. Gift Aid Claims

A material balance of Gift Aid remains unclaimed at the year-end.

Recommendation: Claims should be submitted on a timely basis, with appropriate supporting documentation retained to support recoverability.

5. Prepayments and Accruals

We identified some adjustments required in relation to prepayments (e.g. insurance).

Recommendation: Review year-end cut-off procedures to ensure income and expenditure are recognised in the correct accounting period.

Corrected material misstatements and reclassifications

Included on page **Error! Bookmark not defined.** are the corrected material misstatements identified during the course of our work which have been discussed and agreed with you.

Uncorrected immaterial misstatements and reclassifications

Included on page **Error! Bookmark not defined.** are the uncorrected misstatements or reclassifications that are not trivial and are not material, both in isolation and in aggregate, which we identified during our work and which you do not propose to adjust in the financial statements.

Management Representation Letter

All of the matters included in this letter on which we seek the Trustees' formal confirmation in respect of routine matters.

Corrected misstatements and reclassifications

None

Uncorrected immaterial misstatements and reclassifications

	Description	DATE	Nominal Code	SOFA Dr	SOFA Cr	BALANCE SHEET Dr	BALANCE SHEET Cr	Net effect on SOFA
1)	Income missed posting - FP BROWN, SAMANTHA S BROWN	06-Jun-25			16.00			
	Income missed posting - BACS 25060319614CF CAF25060319614C	06-Jun-25			325.00			
	Income not accounted for corrected	06-Jun-25	1200			341.00		**341.00**
	Being missed income corrected							
2)	Expenses posted twice corrected - DD DAISY COMMS LTD NWS96776	31-Oct-25	6425		112.94			
	Expense accounted twice corrected	31-Oct-25	1200			112.94		**112.94**
	Being expense recorded twice corrected							
3)	Payroll liabilities posted twice - corrected	17-Mar-25	2333				1,413.47	
	Payroll liabilities posted twice - corrected	17-Mar-25	1200			1,413.47		-
	Being liabilities recorded twice corrected							
4)	Transfer between accounts posted twice - corrected	31-Oct-25	4011	1,519.66				
	Transfer between accounts posted twice - corrected	31-Oct-25	1200				1,519.66	- **1,519.66**
	Being expense recorded twice corrected							
5)	Deposit on 10 Eastwood Street moved out of expense	22-Jul-25	6411		3,461.53			
	Deposit on 10 Eastwood Street moved out of expense	22-Jul-25	1102			3,461.53		**3,461.53**
	Being deposit paid out corrected as debtor							

Sector Updates

1. Upcoming Changes to the Charities SORP (FRS 102)

The next update to the Charities SORP (FRS 102) is expected to apply from 1 January 2026, aligned with updates to FRS 102.

Key anticipated areas of change include:

Enhanced narrative reporting

Greater emphasis on trustees clearly explaining:

- Activities and outcomes
- Public benefit delivered
- Use of resources

Income recognition clarity

More detailed guidance on:

- Conditional vs unconditional income
- Grant income recognition timing

Lease accounting changes

Charities may need to recognise:

- Right-of-use assets
- Lease liabilities

(depending on size and applicability)

Improved transparency requirements

Including clearer disclosures around:

- Judgements and estimates
- Related party transactions
- Restricted vs unrestricted funds

What this means:

Trustees should begin preparing for these changes, particularly where there are leases, grants, or more complex income streams.

2. Financial Controls and Governance Expectations

The Charity Commission for England and Wales continues to emphasise:

- Strong financial controls
- Regular bank reconciliations
- Clear audit trails for income and expenditure
- Proper oversight of delegated responsibilities

This is particularly relevant for smaller charities where processes may be informal.

3. Grant-Making and Use of Funds

Recent guidance continues to highlight:

- Clear documentation of grant decisions
- Demonstrating charitable purpose and public benefit
- Appropriate monitoring of funds provided to third parties

Where funds benefit individuals (directly or indirectly), trustees should ensure:

- Transparent decision-making
- Avoidance of private benefit
- Clear supporting records

4. Gift Aid and HMRC Compliance

HM Revenue and Customs continues to focus on:

- Accuracy of Gift Aid claims
- Timely submission of claims
- Maintaining appropriate donor records and declarations

Delays in claiming Gift Aid may increase the risk of:

- Errors
- Lost income
- Compliance challenges

5. Cyber Security and Data Protection

Charities remain a target for cyber risks.

Trustees should ensure:

- Basic cyber security controls are in place
- Sensitive data (donors, beneficiaries) is protected
- Regular backups and access controls are maintained

The Cyber Essentials framework remains a useful benchmark for smaller organisations.

These developments do not necessarily require immediate action but should be considered by trustees as part of ongoing governance and future planning.