The parish church of St Paul's Shadwell with St James Ratcliff, referred to from here on as SPS.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. During 2025, the following served as members of the PCC:

Rector
Revd Phil Williams

Additional Licensed Clergy
Revd Brigid Beney (Curate)
Revd Michael Traynor (Curate, licenced June 2025)
Revd Gareth Haddow (Curate, sent to Poplar Parish, July 2025)
Revd Evonne Galloway (deployed in Poplar partnership)
Revd Mark Bishop (House of Prayer NWC Lead)
Revd Raff Chaves (THMP Shadwell NWC Lead, licenced July 2025)

Churchwardens (appointed May 2025)
Timi Dorgu, Charlene Chen

PCC Elected Members (appointed May 2025)
Jillian Sherborne, Jo Golding, Catherine Hancock, Charlie Lang (Secretary), Sam Ryalls, Nathan Morrow (Safeguarding Officer), Jonathan Moules, Kimberly Owen, David Ricketts, Samantha Thorn, Natasha Traynor, David Watherston (Treasurer)

Deanery Synod Representatives (appointed May 2023)
Phillip Rice, Michael Traynor, Abie Hepworth

Banking providers:
HSBC Bank, Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5EY
Reliance Bank Ltd, Faith House, 23–24 Lovat Lane, London, EC3R 8EB

Postal address:
St Paul's Shadwell, The Highway, London, E1W 3DH

SPS is a registered charity, number **1134843**.

Key Statistics (2025):
Average Sunday attendance: 172
Electoral Roll (as of 31 December 2025): 113 members

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Objectives and activities
The objectives of St Paul's Shadwell are to promote the whole mission of the Church by making disciples, transforming communities, and planting churches.

Responsibilities of the PCC
The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of SPS shares responsibility with the Rector for promoting the whole mission of the Church in the parish. This includes pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical work. The PCC is also responsible for the care and maintenance of the SPS building complex and surrounding conservation area. As a Church of England parish, both the PCC and Rector operate in accordance with the requirements of Church of England Canon Law.

To carry out its objectives, the PCC meets regularly and delegates specific areas of work to a range of working groups. In 2025, the PCC met five times.

Members on the electoral roll are eligible to nominate candidates for election to the PCC. The PCC and Churchwardens are elected annually at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). At the beginning of each serving year, PCC members are introduced to their responsibilities through a briefing paper and welcome session led by the Rector.

Church Staff / Central Team
The day-to-day leadership and management of the church are overseen by the Rector, Revd Phil Williams.

Each Tuesday morning, a dynamic team of clergy, staff, and volunteers gathers with Phil for the central SPS team meeting. In 2025, the central team included:

Katie Taylor (Head of Operations) Revd Brigid Beney (Curate), Revd Michael Traynor (Curate, licenced June 2025), Hannah Genn (Head of Family Life), Abie Hepworth (Ordinand), Oli Taylor (Youth Pastor), Michael Hepworth (Youth Outreach Manager), Matt Venvell (Worship Pastor, ended April 2025), Jamie Sandersfield (Communications & Media Manager), Johnson Brock (SPS Active Instructor, ended August 2025), Anna Dicken (Baby Hub Coordinator, ended December 2025), Kelly Oniell (Children's and Families Worker, Sept 2025), Tom Weller (Facilities Manager,), Jacob Baldock (Worship Pastor & Young Adult Coordinator, started September 2025), Esther Moss (Intern, started September 2025), Nick Golding (Intern, started September 2025), Matthais Ruzicka (Intern, started September 2025). Revd Evonne Galloway (Curate deployed in Poplar partnership), Revd Gareth Haddow (Curate, sent and licenced to Poplar Parish, July 2025), Revd Mark Bishop (House of Prayer NWC Lead), Revd Raff Chaves (THMP Shadwell NWC Lead, licenced July 2025).

Partnering with and supporting local churches
SPS continues to play a full and active role within the Tower Hamlets deanery, working alongside a wide range of local churches and organisations. In 2025, we deepened

partnerships through shared projects, financial support, and by encouraging members of our community to volunteer their time and gifts.
Many of these partnerships have been shaped and energised by the Tower Hamlets Mission Project, of which SPS is a primary delivery church. Key collaborations this year included work with Christ Church Spitalfields, Bow Church, Poplar Church, several Bethnal Green parishes, and the parish of Stepney Green.

In addition to serving as Rector of SPS, Revd Phil Williams also serves as Priest-in-Charge of Poplar Parish and Area Dean of Tower Hamlets. He contributes more widely as a member of the Area Finance Group, Area Council, Diocesan Synod, and also serves as the Tower Hamlets Surrogate.

Public Benefit
The PCC confirms that it has complied with the duty set out in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

St Paul's Shadwell provides public benefit through the wide range of activities described in this report—particularly through our Youth and Children's work, and by supporting other charities and community initiatives through volunteering, prayer, and financial giving. For further details, see the section below entitled Evangelism and Work in the Community.

Safeguarding
The PCC has adopted the Diocese of London's safeguarding policy for children, young people, and vulnerable adults. We are fully committed to the principles of best practice in safeguarding and comply with the duty set out in section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, having due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Making Disciples

Services

In 2025, our principal Sunday service took place at 10am, with weekly Holy Communion at the heart of our worship. The service was live-streamed each week, helping us stay connected with those joining from home or further afield.

Our children and young people continued to begin their Sundays in their own groups, joining the wider church family toward the end of the service to share in Communion together. On the first Sunday of each month, we changed this rhythm. Young people began in the main church for a time of all-age worship and prayer before heading out to their groups. It has been a joy to see our children growing in confidence as they take part in singing, actions, and prayer.

In February, we began a new partnership with an Iranian congregation meeting on site, gathering for Farsi-language services. SPS clergy regularly presided at Holy Communion, and members of the worship team supported musical worship in Farsi.

Register of occasional services 2025
5 Baptisms officiated at SPS
1 Wedding officiated at SPS
1 Funeral officiated at SPS

Prayer

Prayer remains foundational to everything we do at SPS, and 2025 has been another rich year of deepening our life of prayer together. In January, we dedicated the month to going deeper in prayer, with special evenings focused on prayer, a book club, and a full week of 24-7 prayer. This included round-the-clock prayer shifts and a beautifully curated creative prayer space set aside for reflection and encounter. During the month, our lay-led weekly night prayer (compline) also continued online, providing a peaceful space to end the day in prayer together.

Throughout the year, prayer walking continued across different parishes in Tower Hamlets, led by the House of Prayer East. They also hosted weekly prayer gatherings and opened a dedicated, bookable prayer room for individuals and small groups.

Prayer ministry remained a core part of our Sunday worship gatherings, with a trained team available each week to pray with and for individuals.

Docks

Docks are at the heart of deepening discipleship at SPS. They're where we share life, care for one another, and challenge each other to grow in faith. Our docks meet in a variety of shapes, sizes, and rhythms across East and Southeast London.

We currently have 13 docks, including youth and kids docks, with a few more in development. We publish weekly dock resources on the SPS website, rooted in the Sunday sermons. These resources are designed to support dock leaders, help groups apply the teaching in practical ways, and offer anyone a chance to go deeper into what we're learning together as a church.

We gathered as leaders three times over 2025 to explore the church's vision statement and apply them to the life of our docks and how we make disciples in church. They were helpful and faith-building times, and more are planned through 2026.

Family Life & Young Life

Hannah Genn serves full time as Head of Family Life, overseeing our growing ministry to children, young people, and families.

In September Esther, Nick and Matthias joined us to support the overall work of SPS and have been especially valuable in the Young life team, alongside our regular volunteers.

Sunday Young Life

In 2025, an average of 36 children and young people (ages 0–18) attended Young Life groups during the 10am gathering. This represents a steady group of families who attend our sessions, some growth and our older youth cohort who moved from Young life into Young Adult groups or moved away for further study. It does not include babies using the crèche room after check-in has closed.
Children and Young People were welcomed into five age-specific groups:

- Red Room (ages 0–3)
- Yellow Room (Nursery to Reception (3-5)
- Blue Room (Years 1–6)
- Younger Youth (Years 6–9)
- Older Youth (Year 10+)

Each group includes opportunities to pray, worship, learn from the Bible, and have fun together. On the first Sunday of each month, the children joined the main congregation for the start of the service, participating in all-age worship before heading to their groups.

Community Events and Schools Engagement

Our Young Life team led a full programme of events throughout the year to engage local families and children. We built a strong relationship with Blue Gate Infant School, welcoming the children to visit the church and leading Easter and Christmas assemblies. We were also able to welcome Blue Gate Fields Junior school to visit the church at Easter and visited them for an Easter workshop. In September we also launched a lunch club at Wapping High School which takes place every Friday with year 7 and 8.

Summer Hangout

In the summer we helped lead our first joint church youth hangout hosted at Poplar All Saints with 9 local churches taking part. We had a great turn out despite a rainy start, with ice cream, inflatables and activities taking place ahead of a short moment of worship.
This has led to a joint momentum to do something else jointly in the borough, Michael and Hannah began conversations with youth workers and clergy around the borough who are interested in working together to create our next joint youth service in 2026, so far focus groups and questionnaires have gone out to young people to hear their voice on what should happen next.

Trips and Events

- In October, children in Year 3 and above enjoyed a residential at Lambourne end, following on from last year's successful weekend camp.
- On 31 October, we hosted our largest-ever Light Party, welcoming over 100 children and their families for an evening of free fun, food, and games.
- We also ran our Community Nativity in the church with over 100 people attending, including many families from Tiny Tower Tots and Tower Tots.
- We also launched our kids dock in the autumn for children in school year 5 and 6 on Thursday after school.

Youth (Ages 11–18)

Led by full-time Youth Pastor Oli Taylor, the youth ministry has seen significant growth and engagement across all areas.

Key Weekly Activities

- Roots Youth Club: Our Friday night youth group regularly attracts over 20 young people, with end-of-term parties drawing up to 40.
- In the summer term we ran a younger Roots session ending with dinner as we overlapped with the older cohort who joined us for food. This enabled a smooth transition in Autumn term as we invited the younger youth to join us for Roots.
- In the autumn term we launched a monthly Roots Taster session for young people in year 5 and 6, so they can come enjoy a Roots session at a slightly earlier time.
- Youth Docks: We ran two weekly Youth Docks (for younger and older youth), creating space for discipleship, Bible study, and prayer. Up to 10 attend each session.
- Between February and April we ran a living out course for young people called kaleidoscope to explore Christian sexual ethics; we had a small core group of young people attend.

Socials and Special Events

The youth enjoyed a packed calendar of social events in 2025, including:

- Older Youth Nandos Trip
- Aqua Bounce in Fairlop
- Summer BBQs and many youth joined us for bandeoke among other summer evening events.
- Bonfire Night, fire pits and fireworks.

Residentials and Mission Opportunities

- At Easter, 24 young people went away to Oakwood Youth Centre for a time of fellowship and spiritual growth.
- We also ran our Maundy Thursday Youth meal as part of the Easter services with many young people joining us as we ate and took communion together.
- 2 of our young people were baptised on Easter Sunday.
- Focus 2025 saw our youth join the wider SPS family at the summer festival.
- The Scattering, run in partnership with The Message Trust, gave young people the chance to be trained in mission and serve alongside local churches.

The youth ministry continues to flourish, combining fun, community, and deep spiritual formation. It remains a vital and growing part of life at SPS.

Transforming Communities

Community Children and Families Work

Our community-facing ministry for children and families continued to grow in 2025, offering safe, welcoming spaces for local parents, carers, and children to connect, play, and find support.

Tower Tots

Tower Tots is our twice-weekly playgroup offering a vibrant, supportive space for families with young children. On a typical Wednesday morning, around 50 parents, carers, and children attend, with over 35 joining on Thursdays.
In Sept we moved our Thursday Session to Tuesday afternoon which started quietly but quickly grew a steady group of families attending, who found afternoon sessions to be better for their availability.
Around 95% of attending families are from the local community. Alongside regular sessions, Tower Tots hosted special events including an Easter Egg Hunt and a Christmas party featuring a visit from Father Christmas.

Tiny Tower Tots (formerly Baby Hub)

Rebranded this year, Tiny Tower Tots is designed to support women in their final trimester of pregnancy and new parents with babies. The group has welcomed over 145 families since launching in 2021. Sessions include support from local small businesses and guest practitioners, and the network continues to expand to other churches in Tower Hamlets through the Mission Project.
Tiny Tower Tots also hosted clothes swaps and parenting talks, including sessions on mental health and a well-attended paediatric first aid course for families across the wider network.

Baby Bank

This year Kelly O'Neill continued the work of the SPS Baby Bank, providing donated prams, cots, clothes, and essentials to families in need. The Baby Bank has supported many families since its inception and continues to grow in reach and impact, with a handful of families joining us for the community pancake party this year. Kelly has also cultivated regular relationships with corporate volunteers who have helped organise and sort donations as well as wrapping all the presents for the Christmas Party. Baby Bank has become known in the area and many social workers have been referring families to us. Baby Bank continues to grow and as it does the need for volunteers to help with donations also grows.

Family Prayer

We began the year with our Week of Prayer, creating a special booklet to help families pray together at home and inviting them to explore the dedicated prayer room as a family. Many children and young people were deeply engaged with the space and found it meaningful.

Tower Hamlets Youth Outreach

Michael Hepworth continued to play a pivotal role in 2025, serving full-time as Youth Outreach Lead for the Tower Hamlets Mission Project. His work focused on connecting with unchurched young people across the borough, often through van-based outreach in collaboration with local churches and charities.

2025 Highlights

- Engaged 302 new young people, many with no previous connection to St Paul's Shadwell or other local churches
- Average weekly attendance across outreach programmes was approximately 60 young people, spread across five van sessions and one school lunch club
- While attendance varied week to week, the impact of consistent presence and relationship-building was clear

The weekly outreach programme spanned key locations across Tower Hamlets, including Whitechapel, Isle of Dogs, Poplar, Shadwell and Bethnal Green. Sessions were delivered in partnership with local churches and organisations such as XLP, Christ Church Spitalfields, All Saints Poplar and St Peters Bethnal Green. Activities ranged from school lunch clubs and youth mentoring to van-based outreach, with consistent engagement from young people across a range of backgrounds. The year saw strong relational groundwork laid for continued growth in 2026.

In addition to regular outreach, 2025 included a number of special events and collaborations. One-off sessions were held in partnership with local churches including Tower Hamlets Community Church and City of Peace, helping to extend our reach and build wider connections. The outreach van supported Young Life's Stratford Holiday Club by providing a mobile presence, and several sessions were delivered at Glamis Adventure Playground. A highlight was the launch of a Young Leaders Group in partnership with XLP, offering mentoring and life-skills training for older youth—primarily from the Lukin Street

session—as they prepared for the transition to college and work. These sessions, held in the church crypt, provided a significant next step in their discipleship and personal development.

SPS Active

Michael Traynor continued to lead our SPS Active ministry in 2025, with a vision to bless and empower our local community through fitness, wellbeing, and connection. SPS Active exists to help people live healthier lives, deepen community, invite others into church life, and create a third space where church and local community can meet.

2025 was the fourth full year of SPS Active running free fitness classes. These classes continue to focus on full-body strength, mobility, and dance. 2025 was also a year of planning and preparing for the new classes planned to launch in 2026.

An important part of this preparation and an amazing success story is that of Carina. Carina came to St Paul's through SPS Active, was drawn into the wider life of our church community, and in 2025 we supported her in obtaining her Level 2 Gym Instructor. Carina is preparing to run classes in 2026, helping to shape and grow the community that she is such a key part of.

We were also delighted to continue our partnership with the Jesuit Refugee Service, running a weekly class for our refugee friends, planning a second class with them in 2026.

In total, SPS Active delivered 146 classes in 2025, with 1,206 individual slots filled and an impressive 92% attendance rate, equating to 1,192 hours of free community fitness provision

Community Events

Throughout the year we continued to host a wide range of regular community events, welcoming people of all ages from both the church and the wider neighbourhood. These included our Pancake Parties, Easter celebrations, and Summer Garden Party, along with a variety of summer activities for young people such as whitewater rafting, Aqua Bounce sessions, and BBQs. We also organised a number of social events Music Nights, Comedy Nights, Film Nights, the London Marathon Party, Christmas Craft fair, the Community Nativity, Bandeoke and carols by candlelight

For Fireworks Night we introduced a new format, offering three separate events: our annual Light Party for primary school–aged children, a Youth Bonfire Party for those aged 11–18, and a Fireside Social featuring a firepit, s'mores, and live music for the whole community.

These events provide valuable opportunities to build relationships, serve our local community, share God's love, and invite others to explore the message of Jesus.

Homelessness – GrowTH

This winter, we were once again privileged to partner with GrowTH Night Shelter, opening the doors of St Paul's Shadwell every Thursday night from October to mid-January. Over the course of 15 weeks, we welcomed more than 70 guests, providing warmth, food, conversation, and a safe place to sleep.

A brilliant team of volunteers gave generously of their time and energy—cooking meals, serving drinks, playing games, staying overnight, and offering friendship and care. We are deeply grateful for every act of love shown, week after week.

We are now looking forward to hosting the GrowTH Annual Celebration at SPS in May 2025, when churches from across the partnership will gather to hear stories, celebrate the impact, and reflect on the year with the wider GrowTH team.

Food Poverty

Throughout 2025, SPS partnered with a number of local churches and organisations to help address food poverty and deprivation in our community. These included Poplar Church, Christ Church Spitalfields and the St Matthias and St Dunstan's Foodbanks. Through these partnerships, we were able to play a part in supporting vulnerable individuals and families with practical care and dignity.

Planting Churches

Planting churches remains a core part of our vision at SPS.

In March 2025, we celebrated the 20th anniversary of the original church plant into St Paul's Shadwell, alongside two decades of church planting that have followed. We marked the occasion with an evening banquet, welcoming over 100 guests, including many SPS alumni and leaders who have been sent out over the years.

Throughout 2025, we continued to support our recently planted partnerships in Poplar, Bethnal Green and Stepney Green.

Alongside this, we have been planting back into the base. This has included the development of our Iranian congregational partnership, providing worship in the Farsi language, and the arrival of Revd Raff Chaves, with a remit to launch two new worshipping communities in Shadwell. One which gathers midweek, focusing on those in recovery from addiction, and the other on Sunday evenings, creating space for those in Shadwell who are not yet part of the church to explore faith.

FACILITIES AND FABRIC

Day to Day Site Maintenance

We continue to be grateful for a church community and core team who care deeply for the St Paul's site and help ensure everything runs smoothly. In 2025, we again benefited from strong partnerships with the Community Payback Team and Tower Hamlets Green Team, who support weekly site maintenance under Tom Weller's guidance. In his facilities management role Tom has continued to bring fresh energy and organisation to the tasks.

Planned Maintenance

All key systems and safety measures passed their six-monthly and annual inspections, including: fire alarm systems, fire extinguishers, security alarms, lighting rod, sump pump, PAT testing, and boiler. Our next electrical safety inspection is due in 2026.

Quinquennial Inspection

In May 2025, we finally received the formal report on our Quinquennial (5 yearly) Inspection (QI). The QI Report follows a standard format and identifies maintenance and improvement works to be carried out within various timescales:
Immediately. Within 18 months, within 5 years and Regular Maintenance Programme.

The SPS Fabric Working Group has met and analysed the Report contents, summarising the immediate and 18 month works, applying a risk factor to not doing an action and identifying what works require a contractor and what could be carried out by volunteers. Works are planned to start in Spring 2026.

Planned Works

While not a focus of the QI Report we have not lost sight of our twin priorities of toilet upgrades and access improvements. We received permission from the Archdeacon to choose a different architect to carry out these works.

APCM FINANCE REVIEW REPORT 2025

Financial review

During the year total income was £790,773 (2024: £618,920), of which £301,206 came from congregation giving (2024: £245,050). Total expenditure, including £10,385 of depreciation (2024: £15,757) and £251,180 restricted expenditure (£183,281), was £741,187 (2024: £650,358) giving a surplus in the year of £49,586 (2024: deficit of £(31,438)). We are immensely grateful to God and to all those who gave so generously. The PCC are confident that the organisation can continue to grow and develop into 2026 and beyond, based on the budget and plans for the coming years.

Expenditure in support of the key objectives

All expenditure was in support of the key objectives. It is analysed into different church activities in note 3 of the financial statements. Most of the spending meets more than one of the key objectives.

Policy on reserves
PCC policy is deliberately not to build up reserves. The PCC aims to hold no less than 3 months' working capital as reserves in case of financial need, and that this should be at least £130,000. Any reserves over this amount that may exist result from accumulated giving at any one time. Total unrestricted reserves (excluding fixed asset funds) at 31 December 2025 amounted to £101,237 (2024: 143,661), along with a further £126,066 of unspent restricted grant income (2024: £29,907),. The PCC are comfortable with the current level of reserves, but aim to build up the unrestricted reserves to the £130,000 target level.

Risk assessment and mitigation
The ongoing risks which the organisation faces are being considered and measures implemented to ensure that appropriate systems, policies and procedures are in place to manage and mitigate the risks. Specifically, as an organisation with a low level of reserves, there is a financial risk which is managed by strong financial systems and controls. With Clergy and employed staff there are health and safety and employment law issues which may arise. These are being mitigated through modern management systems and practices. As a matter of general policy, independent professional advice is taken where appropriate.

Investment policy
As mentioned above, the policy of SPS is to minimise reserves and hence it rarely has excess funds to invest. However, from time to time, especially after gift days, temporary surpluses occur in which case the funds are placed on deposit for short periods in order to maximise interest income and minimise risk.

Grant making policy
The task of deciding how to distribute grants for mission giving was done by the Rector with reference to the Treasurer. Grants are awarded to organisations and church members working in mission based on an evaluation of each case. All giving follows SPS' mission policy of the promotion of the Christian gospel in proclamation and social action throughout the world. There are no PCC related trusts.

Sustainability policy
SPS encourages the adoption of sustainable practice in all areas of church life and work, to contribute to the overall reduction in carbon emissions as a means to contributing to the reduction in carbon emissions in dealing with the growing evidence for man-made climate change. Measures taken include; recycling, energy audits, encouraging the use of public transport, cycling and walking.

Plans for future periods
The short and medium-term plan is to continue with the same objectives and activities in support of them.

The PCC's responsibilities in relation to the financial statements
Charity law requires the PCC to prepare a statement of financial activities and statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year, which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the church and of its financial activities for that year and adequately

distinguishes any material special trust or other restricted fund of the church. In preparing those financial statements the PCC is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the church will continue to operate.

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the church, and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice and the regulations made under the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the PCC of St Paul's Shadwell with St James Ratcliff and signed on its behalf on 19th April 2026

by:





Timi Dorgu
Churchwarden

David Watherston
Treasurer

adventus accounting solutions
Supporting Charitable Organisations

12 April 2026

Independent Examiner's report to the Member/Trustees of St Paul Shadwell

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church'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.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 the 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

Since the gross income for the year exceeds the amount provided in section 145(3) of the Act, I confirm that I am qualified to act as an Independent Examiner under the provisions of that section of the Act and that my qualifications are set out as below.

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; or
- to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records 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.

Yours sincerely



Martyn Burt
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Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2025 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £
INCOME FROM:					
Congregation Giving	2(a)	287,223	13,983	301,206	245,050
Other Funds Generated	2(b)	61,502	339,163	400,665	290,468
Rent	2(c)	88,903	-	88,903	83,402
TOTAL INCOME		**437,628**	**353,146**	**790,773**	**618,920**
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Church activities	3(a)	472,198	251,180	723,378	627,584
Depreciation		10,385	-	10,385	15,757
Raising funds	3(b)	7,424	-	7,424	7,018
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		**490,007**	**251,180**	**741,187**	**650,358**
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(52,379)	101,965	49,586	(31,438)
Transfers between funds	7	5,806	(5,806)	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		**(46,573)**	**96,159**	**49,586**	**(31,438)**
Balances brought forward at 1 January		220,870	2,164,907	2,385,777	2,417,215
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER		**174,296**	**2,261,066**	**2,435,363**	**2,385,777**

Balance Sheet

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	6	2,208,059	2,218,444
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	8	74,402	40,111
Cash at bank and in hand	9	174,961	143,080
		249,364	183,190
LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	10	(22,060)	(15,858)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		227,303	167,333
LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR		-	-
NET ASSETS		**2,435,363**	2,385,777
Represented by:			
FUNDS	7		
Unrestricted		174,296	220,871
Restricted		2,261,066	2,164,907
Total funds		**2,435,363**	2,385,777

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 19th April 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



Timi Dorgu
Churchwarden

Cash Flow Statement

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2025	2024
Net cash flows from operating activities	11	(103,780)	45,536	(58,244)	(39,599)
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		90,125	-	90,125	85,034
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		-	-	-	-
Net cash used in investing activities		**90,125**	**-**	**90,125**	**85,034**
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		**(13,654)**	**45,536**	**31,882**	**45,434**
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		123,174	19,907	143,080	97,646
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward		**109,519**	**65,443**	**174,961**	**143,080**

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The PCC meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The PCC considers that SPS is a going concern as it has prepared what it considers to be a viable budget which shows that with the current level of unrestricted reserves it is appropriate to support the activities planned for 2026 and for the foreseeable future. Therefore, the accounts have been prepared on the basis of SPS being a going concern.

Due to roundings some totals may appear to be £1 different to the individual amounts.

Funds
General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Restricted funds are those donated for specific purposes.

Income
Donations and other income are recognised when received and an estimate of income tax recoverable is recognised when the related donations are recognised.
Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is probable.
Sales of books and magazines from the church bookstall are accounted for gross.

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue. Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when the award has been notified to the recipient, whichever is sooner.

Expenditure
The diocesan Common Fund is accounted for when paid. Any Common Fund unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.
Expenditure incurred in the operation of the church is classed as charitable activities.

Fixed Assets
In the absence of an actual cost, the insurance valuation has been used as the deemed cost for operational assets, with no depreciation charge being made during the year due to the long life of the asset and regular maintenance.

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10 of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's Inventory which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For inalienable property acquired prior to 2003 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. No such Items have been acquired since 1 January 2003.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings or on the repair of movable church furnishings acquired before 1 January 2003 is written off.

Only items of greater than £1500 are capitalised. Church worship equipment comprises a number of electrical and other items connected with sound, vision and worship. They will be depreciated over five years from date of first use. Computer and office equipment and furnishings are depreciated over four years from date of first use. Catering equipment is written off over five years from date of first use. Church chairs are depreciated over ten years.

Current assets
Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments. Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectible.

2. Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2025	TOTAL FUNDS 2024
	£	£	£	£
2(a) Congregation Giving				
Regular donations	231,924	-	231,924	212,188
Income tax recoverable	29,015	135	29,150	27,682
Collections (open plate) at all services	3,735	-	3,735	4,327
Gift days and other one off gifts	22,550	13,848	36,398	854
	287,223	13,983	301,206	245,050
2(b) Other Funds Generated:				
Grants	14,200	330,003	344,203	268,209
Dividends and interest including any reclaimable tax	1,222	-	1,222	1,632
Fees for weddings and funerals	587	-	587	80
Other income	45,492	9,160	54,652	20,547
	61,502	339,163	400,665	290,468
2(c) Rent				
Regular rent from Institute	55,715	-	55,715	44,384
Institute, Church and Crypt adhoc lettings	33,188	-	33,188	39,018
	88,903	-	88,903	83,402
TOTAL INCOME	437,628	353,146	790,773	618,920

3. Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS
3(a) Church Activities			**2025**	**2024**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Common Fund	105,000	-	105,000	97,691
Giving to other organisations	8,569	-	8,569	14,028
Clergy costs	13,935	42,075	56,011	50,809
Grant repayment	7,140	-	7,140	-
Premises costs	124,910	178	125,088	107,804
Central team costs	56,208	-	56,208	56,547
Upkeep of services	11,928	17	11,945	20,537
Worship and prayer ministry	16,171	-	16,171	22,034
Children, youth, and families	73,166	26,476	99,643	87,937
Ministry and congregational connecting	54,018	30,940	84,957	39,548
Tower Hamlets mission project	-	138,663	138,663	129,222
Our Father's House	-	6,723	6,723	-
House of Prayer	-	6,108	6,108	-
Governance costs including independent examiner's fee and meeting costs	1,152	-	1,152	1,427
	472,198	251,180	723,378	627,584
Depreciation	10,385	-	10,385	15,757
Total expenditure on charitable activities	482,583	251,180	733,763	643,340
3(b) Expenditure on raising funds				
Event costs	-	-	-	-
Maintenance of rental properties	5,882	-	5,882	5,833
Collecting agent fees	1,542	-	1,542	1,185
	7,424	-	7,424	7,018
Total expenditure	490,007	251,180	741,187	650,358

4. Staff costs

	2025	2024
	£	**£**
Wages and salaries (incl PAYE)	236,920	189,211
Employer's NI contributions	20,182	10,612
Pension contributions	4,944	3,669
	262,046	203,492

During the year the PCC employed on average the full time equivalent of 6.5 people (2024:6.5) and on the basis of actual number of people employed regardless of FTE the average number of people employed in the year was 13 (2024: 10). No employee earned in excess of £60,000 in the year (2024: none).

5. Related party transactions

No trustees received any remuneration or benefits from the PCC.

Total donations to SPS by PCC members in the year ended 31 December 2025 were £43,485 (2024: £42,103) excluding gift aid.

Charles Lang, Secretary, is also a Trustee of the Porters Trust. The Porters Trust owns Doughty Court, a property which is used by the PCC rent-free. The PCC are responsible for paying the property utilities but are not responsible for the maintenance of the property. The Porters Trust also made a grant to SPS of £20,000, restricted to the cost of a Youth Pastor.

Phil Williams and Timi Dorgu are trustees of both SPS and John Carr Charity. John Carr Charity awarded a grant to SPS of £15,000, restricted to social transformation.

There were no other discloseable transactions in respect of PCC members, persons closely connected with them or other related parties.

6. Fixed Assets

	Worship equipment £	Outdoor Gym £	Freehold land and buildings £	Computer & Communications equipment £	Fixtures, fittings, and vehicles £	Total £
Actual/Revalued cost						
At 1 January 2025	16,638	19,729	2,299,380	33,388	94,960	2,464,094
Additions during the year	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2025	16,638	19,729	2,299,380	33,388	94,960	2,464,094
Depreciation						
At 1 January 2025	13,937	19,040	164,380	31,276	17,016	245,649
Charge for the year	2,700	580	-	704	6,400	10,385
At 31 December 2025	16,638	19,621	2,299,380	31,980	23,416	2,391,034
Net Book Value						
At 1 January 2025	2,700	688	2,135,000	2,111	77,944	2,218,444
At 31 December 2025	-	108	2,135,000	1,408	71,544	2,208,059

Freehold land and buildings include the Institute building on 302 The Highway. For accounting purposes, the historical cost of this property is deemed to be its insurance valuation. The latest valuation was carried out in October 2010 by Ecclesiastical Insurance.

7. Funds

a. Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £
Fixed Assets for church use	73,059	2,135,000	2,208,059
Current Assets	123,217	126,147	249,364
Total Liabilities	(21,980)	(80)	(22,060)
Fund Balance	174,296	2,261,066	2,435,363

b. Analysis of movement in funds

Restricted funds	Opening Balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	Closing Balance £
Institute Building Fund	2,135,000	-	-	-	2,135,000
Baby Bank	-	6,947	(553)	-	6,394
House of Prayer	725	13,990	(5,371)	-	9,344
Youth Mission	-	323	(310)	-	13
Youth and Children's Worker	-	15,000	(15,000)	-	-
London Marathon - Gym Coordinator	7,970	40,000	(30,528)	-	17,442
Our Father's House ministry	-	8,805	(6,241)	-	2,564
Porters Trust - Children's Pastor	-	20,000	(7,222)	-	12,778
Curate Housing	-	42,075	(42,075)	-	-
Social transformation - John Carr	3,392	-	(3,392)	-	-
Strategic Development Fund	17,821	205,981	(140,477)	(5,806)	77,518
Tower Tots	-	25	(12)	-	13
	2,164,907	353,146	(251,180)	(5,806)	2,261,066
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	143,661	437,628	(484,068)	5,806	103,027
Designated funds					
Fixed asset: Boiler	24,746	-	(1,904)	-	22,843
Fixed asset: Van	52,463	-	(4,036)	-	48,427
	220,870	437,628	(490,007)	5,806	174,296
Total funds	2,385,777	790,773	(741,187)	-	**2,435,363**

Details of funds and transfers

The Institute Building Fund is a restricted fund because the PCC have no power to dispose of this asset; the power rests with the Diocese of London.
Baby Bank: Funds received to support the Baby Bank, which provides donated prams, cots, clothes, and essentials to families in need.
Education Charity: Funds received towards Family Life ministry.
House of Prayer: A new worshipping community, part of Strategic Development Funding, known as HOP East, where Christians are committed to a shared life of prayer.
Youth Mission: a funding bid through which we invested in missional youth work.
Bridging the gap between church youth work and community youth work thinking in terms of inside-out working and outside-in working
Youth and Children's worker: A grant received from John Carr charity towards the cost of the Youth worker and Children's worker; a role that leads and supports the development and engagement of young people in the church.
London Marathon Fund: We received funding from the London Marathon Charitable Trust for the SPS Outdoor Gym Project.
Our Father's House: A Christian recovery ministry rooted in the 12-step programme, supporting individuals on their journey to restoration.
Porters Trust: funding received towards the role of Children's Pastor
Curate Housing: funding received to pay for accommodation provided for trainee clergy during their ministry placement.
Social transformation – John Carr: Funding for a dedicated role focused on addressing social issues and improving community wellbeing through practical church action.
Strategic Development Fund (SDF): to fund a Tower Hamlets-wide project to grow new disciples through a combination of intercultural and youth-focused work, church planting and revitalisation.
Tower Tots: donations restricted to the costs of running the SPS Tower Tots; a 'stay-and-play' group for toddlers and their adults.
Fixed Asset: Boiler represents the remainder of the grant awarded for the replacement of the boiler, for depreciation purposes.
Fixed Asset: Van represents the remainder of the grant awarded for the Youth Outreach Van as part of the Strategic Development Fund, for depreciation purposes.

£2,400 was transferred from the SDF fund to unrestricted funds as rent in kind for the Youth Outreach Manager accommodation. £3,406 was transferred from the SDF fund to unrestricted funds as part of the Full Cost Recovery associated with the Youth Outreach Manager.

c. Analysis of movement in funds for prior year comparative

Restricted funds	Opening Balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	Closing Balance £
Institute Building Fund	2,135,000	-	-	-	2,135,000
Education Charity - Family Life	-	12,775	(12,775)	-	-
House of Prayer	-	725	-	-	725
Youth Mission	15	5	(20)	-	-
London Marathon - Gym Coordinator	1,913	17,639	(11,582)	-	7,970
Porters Trust	444	20,000	(20,444)	-	(0)
Curate Housing	-	-	-	-	-
Social transformation - John Carr	-	10,000	(6,608)	-	3,392
Spark Funding	195	-	(195)	-	(0)
Strategic Development Fund	36,329	130,587	(131,656)	(17,438)	17,821
	2,173,895	191,731	(183,281)	(17,438)	2,164,907
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	160,172	427,190	(461,138)	17,438	143,661
Designated funds					-
Fixed asset : Boiler	26,650	-	(1,904)	-	24,746
Fixed asset : Van	56,498	-	(4,036)	-	52,463
	243,320	427,190	(467,078)	17,438	220,870
Total funds	2,417,215	618,920	(650,359)	-	**2,385,777**

8. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Income tax recoverable	4,461	2,110
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
Loan to Poplar Church	-	14,694
SDF grant due	60,560	-
Other grants due	-	10,000
Other debtors	9,381	13,307
	74,402	40,111

9. Cash at bank and in hand

	2025 £	2024 £
Current accounts	95,685	65,026
Deposit Accounts	79,277	78,054
Cash in hand	-	-
	174,961	143,080

10. Liabilities falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals	11,403	720
Creditors for goods and services	3,694	8,873
PAYE and NI due to HMRC	(1,195)	5,583
Pensions payable	1,018	682
London Diocese loan	7,140	
	22,060	15,858

11. Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2025	2024
Net surplus for reporting period as per statement of financial activities	(46,573)	96,159	49,586	(31,438)
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation charges	10,385		10,385	15,757
Dividends, interest, and rent from investments	(90,125)		(90,125)	(85,034)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	16,412	(50,704)	(34,292)	54,247
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	6,122	80	6,202	6,869
Net cash flow from operating activities	**(103,780)**	**45,536**	**(58,244)**	**(39,599)**