CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The Shirley Community Chaplaincy (North East)	No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 01/04/2025	To	Period end date 31/03/2026

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Voluntary Income	13,107	-	-	13,107	12,697
Bank interest	459	-	-	459	162
Trust Funding	2,000	-	-	2,000	20,000
HMRC Gift Aid	3,472	-	-	3,472	3,407
Reclaim Travel Exp	-	-	-	-	41
Fundraising	3,087	-	-	3,087	11,392
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total *(Gross income for AR)*	22,126	-	-	22,126	47,698
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	22,126	-	-	22,126	47,698
A3 Payments					
Salary	21,131	-	-	21,131	20,454
Transport	3,973	-	-	3,973	3,312
Food/Accomodation	1,586	-	-	1,586	1,266
Outings	2,010	-	-	2,010	391
Pension	1,490	-	-	1,490	1,422
Office/Insurance/Payrol	968	-	-	968	1,275
Emergency Support	449	-	-	449	528
Bank Fee	60	-	-	60	192
PAYE TAX NIC	5,517	-	-	5,517	4,857
Volunteer Admin Support	2,355	-	-	2,355	3,699
Mobile Costs	300	-	-	300	300
Sub total	39,839	-	-	39,839	37,694
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	39,839	-	-	39,839	37,694
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 17,713	-	-	- 17,713	10,004
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	40,584	-	-	40,584	30,580
Cash funds this year end	22,870	-	-	22,870	40,584

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

B1 Cash funds

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Cash in Hand	14	-	
	Virgin Account	599	-	
	CAF Bank Account	22,257	-	-
	Total cash funds	22,870	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
R K Bryant	Rev Canon Richard Bryant	10.09.26
Helen Pepper	Helen M Pepper	10.09.26

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of The Shirley Community Chaplaincy (North-East)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Shirley Community Chaplaincy for the year ended 31/03/26

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity trustees of the Shirley Community Chaplaincy you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination.

I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act, or

2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

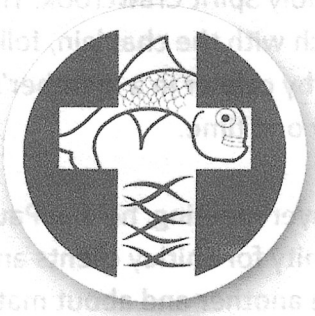
Signed: S. Groves.

Name: Stephen Groves

Date: 18/08/26

THE SHIRLEY COMMUNITY CHAPLAINCY (North East)

ANNUAL REPORT 2025/2026



Introduction

In the year 2025/2026 Shirley has consolidated its provision of guidance in practical and spiritual matters to individuals in its care. Referrals have often started in prison and been followed by visits in and outside prison. In some instances, clients have been collected at the point of their release and been taken to approved premises or other locations. On occasions, as in previous years, there has been engagement with the judicial processes, as the chaplain has sought to offer support throughout the vicissitudes of the challenges which clients have faced following release.

The chaplaincy was founded in 2014, and the first two years of operations focused largely upon activities with men from HMP Northumberland, whom the chaplain had known in his time as chaplain there. In the last ten years, the chaplaincy's reach has been broadened through referrals from existing members, regional prison chaplains, probation officers and other agents. The chaplaincy is a member of the national Community Chaplaincy Association.

Shirley continues to be a client-centred organisation, and the chaplain seeks to accommodate the wide variety of needs, energies and skills of the client body in a range of activities and engagements. While most of the chaplain's time is spent with individuals, he has always tried to incorporate a variety of projects into Shirley's programme, eg outings and meetings, and this has continued in the past year. In 2025/26 the corporate emphasis has revolved round involvement in church and community events in Greenside parish in the diocese of Durham, as the chaplaincy has encouraged clients to explore and develop their faith and to interrelate with people in their localities. There have also been social visits and residential trips outside the parish and the north east.

The chaplain has continued to work on a 0.8 basis, and the administrator continues to work 0.15 on finance and administration. This has been working well for clients, staff, supporters and trustees. The administrator has had positive involvement with clients, notably with a female client. We acknowledge warmly the dedication and hard work, ability and flexibility of the chaplain, administrator, volunteers, partners and clients.

A Week in the Life of Shirley

The chaplain spends much of his time with individuals, in-person and by 'phone, but he has also been engaged in planning and implementing various group activities and residentials. On a weekly basis the following commitments ran in the past year:

- Sunday - Service at Holy Spirit Crawcrook. There is an open invitation for any of our clients to attend church with the chaplain, followed by a lunch with a number of church members in a nearby café or in a member's own home. Between one and three clients attend at any one time.

- Monday - Weekly prayer meeting, held in Paul's and church members' homes and by Zoom: an opportunity for Shirley clients and members of Holy Spirit Church Crawcrook to pray for one another and about matters of wider concern. Between two and nine people attend.

- Wednesday - Weekly social group for church members and clients: an opportunity to share food, socialise, worship and study the Bible. Between three and ten people attend.

The Past Year

This year the chaplain has been working with eighteen clients on an intensive basis, as evidenced in Appendix 1. As always, his main concern has been to enable them to grow in self-confidence and to integrate well with other people, and he has been available on a 'phone line, as well as in-person, to offer support to clients at home, in prison, at court and in hospital.

There have been some significant visits and residential trips, among them:

- taking 3 clients and our volunteer Michael to The Gathering Men's Christian Camping Festival in Swindon in June 2025, organised by CVM (Christian Vision for Men). The lads all thoroughly enjoyed the trip and engaged in live comedy, cool cars, a 5-a-side tournament, walking football, huge inflatables, volleyball, axe throwing, relevant Bible teaching, great worship, great speakers, life stories, bonfires.
- accompanying clients and our volunteer to Gateway Newcastle Annual Church weekend away held at Whithaugh Park in Scotland in July 2025.
- making our first residential trip with a client and guest to Portugal in June 2025, an answer to prayer which Paul hopes to repeat in future years.

The chaplain has continued to work constructively with solicitors, the probation service, police, MAPPA (Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements) and hospitals. He has visited clients and potential clients regularly in Northumberland, Durham and Holme House prisons, although any wider prison work has been hampered by a temporary suspension of

his permission to work in prisons on a professional basis, caused by an administrative misunderstanding. The chairman of the Trustees has sought clarification from the awarding body and been encouraged to submit a new application in January 2027.

Trustees, the Management Committee and the Pastoral Group, have continued to meet on a regular basis (each of them every two or three months throughout the year). They were delighted to arrange the annual Christmas meal with clients and supporters in December 2025 in a Jesmond Italian restaurant. The chaplain has also consolidated his and Shirley's place within the structure and ministry of Holy Spirit Crawcrook, where he serves as a licensed Reader, as well as being a member of the Greenside Parochial Church Council, the lay chair of the Gateshead West Deanery Synod, a member of Durham Diocesan Synod and of the Bishop's Council.

On the financial front, the annual Bible-Reading fund raiser at Holy Spirit Crawcrook was again a great success. Thanks go to all who participated, to the Holy Spirit vicar and church council for hosting it and to Gaye, our adminsistrator, for managing it. Trustees hope that the 2026 event will be included in the Big Give enterprise, as in 2024.

Chaplaincy Structure and Support

The chaplaincy supports the chaplain and his work through its Board of Trustees, the Management Committee and the Pastoral Group. A supporter's generous donation, over three years, has enabled the trustees to fund the chaplain's work at 0.8 and the administrator's work at 0.15. They acknowledge with gratitude the contribution the administrator has made over the past three years in managing the finances, facilitating Management Committee meetings and publishing the quarterly newsletter to inform members of recent and forthcoming events.

Plans for the Future

While Trustees' hopes of enhancing the Chaplain's salary to full-time and of employing additional staff are limited at the moment by current income levels, they are still pursuing ways of expanding capital and income to make this possible in future. The chaplain and administrator are working to their limits, and, with the trustees' backing, are seeking to expand the client base and enable an even richer diet of events and activities than has been possible to date.

Among the chaplain's agreed priorities for the forthcoming year are:

a) **continuing flexibility in future working patterns** – including involvement with the Welcome Directory and an ongoing relationship with Gateway church in the west end of Newcastle to expand Shirley's outreach.

b) **continuing to seek and support volunteers** – whose hands-on work with clients provides vital help in enabling trips and activities.

c) **securing permission to work in prisons again** – by submitting a fresh application in January 2027.

d) **implementing Shirley's vision** – in enabling people released from prison and sentencing to live fulfilling lives and to find help and hope in Christian faith and practice. To this end, the chaplain offers a model of good practice in the ministerial leadership at Greenside, as well as at Deanery and Diocesan levels.

e) **working with partners** – the chaplain has continued to work closely with both members of Durham Diocesan Synod and the Community Chaplaincy Association (CCA), to promote engagement within the Church of England with those who have had criminal convictions. There was understandable disappointment that proposed meetings in the Synod and sponsored by the CCA did not take place, but the chaplain and trustees will seek other ways of helping churches locally and regionally to offer a welcome to those released from their custodial and community sentences.

Challenges

The chaplain, trustees and members of the Management Committee have identified the following challenges as priorities to be addressed in 2026-2027:

1. expanding the annual income to provide secure funding beyond the next two years.
2. increasing staffing level, by appointing further paid and unpaid staff, as opportunity arises.
3. being prepared for potential increase of clients and client activity through the Early Release scheme.

Thanks

The chaplaincy again records its gratitude to the vicar of Greenside, Tom Brazier, and the congregations of Greenside parish, (Holy Spirit Crawcrook and St John's Greenside): they have made Shirley welcome in so many ways, and in November 2025 they hosted again the chaplaincy's major fund-raising activity, a sponsored reading of parts of the Bible.

The chaplaincy has been indebted this last year to Michael from Gateway, who has accompanied the chaplain at both residentials and on a number of other occasions, including picking up clients from prison.

It also thanks warmly its volunteers and those who support its work in prayer (including Greenside church members who have hosted and attended the Prayer Group), finance and other practical ways.

David Scott (Chair of Trustees and Management Committee), Richard Bryant (Chair of Pastoral Group), Paul Hobbs (Community Chaplain), Gaye Templeton (Administrator)
10 September 2026

Appendix 1 – List of the Chaplain's Contacts with Clients and Related People in 2025-2026
(taken from the Chaplaincy Diary 1st April 2025 - 31st March 2026)

In total, there were 463 interactions, involving 18 clients, who identified as 15 white British males, 1 black male, 1 mixed-race male and 1 white British female. The age-ranges covered were:

30-40 = 9
40-50 = 3
50-60 = 4
60-70 = 2

Contacts:

Received phone calls from Prison, Hospitals, Community	170
Visits to prison	6
Home visits	30
Visits to hospital	5
Prayer meeting	28
Meals out for clients	109
Clients taken to church	58
Clients attending bacon sandwich club	18
Food parcels given	19