Ashford Street Pastors – Governance, Purpose and Public Benefit Summary

Governance and Policies

Ashford Street Pastors operates under a license agreement with **Ascension Trust,** the national organisation that governs and supports the Street Pastor movement. The charity adopts Ascension Trust model policies and adapts them to local circumstances. These include:

Safeguarding, Data Protection, Equal Opportunities, Standard Operating Procedures with Kent Police, Patrolling Procedures, Communications, computer, Email and Internet Usage, Whistleblowing, Media Guidelines, Financial Controls, Complaints Procedure, Health and Safety, Senior Street Pastor Guidance, Social Media and CCTV Policy

New trustees receive key governance documents including the Constitution, Trustees' Annual Report, Accounts and License Agreement. Trustees are expected to understand their legal duties, comply with Charity Commission guidance (including *The Essential Trustee*), avoid conflicts of interest and actively support the charity's mission and objectives.

Charitable Purpose

The charity exists to:

1. **Advance the Christian faith** through practical pastoral care, support, guidance and signposting for people in public places. Deliver a **front-line volunteer support service for vulnerable and socially excluded people encountered in the nighttime economy**.

2. **Develop the capacity and skills of disadvantaged members of the community** through training, volunteering and community engagement.

1. Work according to the **Urban Trinity model** bringing together churches, police and local government for the benefit of the local community.

Activities and Services

Ashford Street Pastors is a registered charity staffed entirely by trained volunteers from local churches. The charity pays for the contractual services of a coordinator employed on a part-time basis.

The organisation:

- Patrols Ashford town centre, primarily on Friday and selected Saturday nights
- Provides practical support to vulnerable people
- Offers a listening ear and nonjudgmental assistance
- Supports individuals affected by alcohol, drugs, loneliness, homelessness or vulnerability
- Assists people to get home safely

- Signposts individuals to relevant emergency agencies, housing, health and support services
- Works closely with Kent Police, Ashford Borough Council and partner agencies

Street Pastors are easily recognised through their uniform and identification cards and are trained to engage safely and professionally in the nighttime economy.

Safe Space Welfare Vehicle

A significant part of the service is the **Safe Space welfare vehicle,** introduced through the Police and Crime Commissioner's Safer Streets initiative.

The vehicle:

- Provides a place of safety for vulnerable individuals
- Supports people who are intoxicated, distressed or unable to care for themselves
- Assists emergency services during periods of high demand
- Helps transport vulnerable individuals to a place of safety where appropriate

Community Partnerships

Ashford Street Pastors maintains strong partnerships with:

- Kent Police
- Ashford Borough Council
- Community Safety Unit
- APAC/Pub Watch
- Rough Sleeper Service
- Other local voluntary and statutory services

The charity demonstrates the Urban Trinity principle through collaborative working that contributes to community safety, public reassurance and crime prevention.

Volunteer Contribution

The charity depends entirely on volunteers who:

- Undertake specialist Street Pastor training
- Contribute financially towards their training and uniform
- Patrol, provide welfare support, and undertake administrative and governance responsibilities
- Are supported by Prayer Pastors who provide prayer support and practical assistance throughout the patrol evenings

Without the volunteers, the charity would not exist.

Public Benefit and Community Impact

The service delivers clear public benefit by:

- Helping vulnerable individuals reducing isolation among vulnerable adults through trusted relationships, practical support and signposting into longer-term services.
- Preventing and reducing anti-social behavior
- Supporting those affected by alcohol and substance misuse
- Assisting homeless and rough sleeping individuals
- Improving community safety
- Supporting emergency services and local authorities
- Promoting social inclusion and wellbeing

The charity's practical actions-including welfare intervention, provision of blankets, water, footwear, first aid assistance, removal of potential weapons such as bottles, and safeguarding vulnerable people-contribute directly to safer streets and improved community outcomes.

Key 2025 Outcome (as recorded to end September 2025)

Achievements and Performance:

Between 1 January 2025 and 30 September 2025, Ashford Street Pastors patrolled the streets of Ashford on **42 occasions**, with **42 operational teams deployed** providing a visible and reassuring presence within the nighttime economy. The charity delivered approximately **1764 of volunteer patrol hours** during this period. (ASP statistics for 2025)

Street Pastors engaged with **589 members of the public** and provided direct assistance to **37 individuals,** including **28 extremely vulnerable people and 9 people identified as homeless or rough sleeping**. (ASP statistics for 2025)

The team assisted in preserving public safety by removing **80 bottles** and **12 glasses** from the streets, reducing potential opportunities for violence, disorder and anti-social behavior. (ASP statistics for 2025)

Throughout the reporting period, Street Pastors distributed practical welfare items including **13 bottles of water**, **5 emergency blankets**, **815 lollipops**, and **anti-spiking bottle stopper (Stop Topps/Spikey)** to support vulnerable individuals and promote their wellbeing. (ASP statistics for 2025)

The team recorded **25 interactions with homeless or rough sleeping individuals** providing welfare support, information and signposting where appropriate. Street Pastors also **administered 33 instances of first aid** and recorded **18 faith-based conversations, prayer opportunities or spiritual support encounters.** These conversations occur naturally as people enquire about street pastors, the teams do not seek to evangelise or preach but will answer direct questions about their faith from those enquiring. (ASP Statistics for 2025)

Ashford Street Pastors worked closely with local partners throughout the period, responding to requests from Town Control and supporting community safety objectives across the borough. The Safe Space vehicle available during each patrol was deployed on **29 patrols** and recorded **8 major uses**, helping to support vulnerable individuals and reduce pressure on the emergency services. The patrol team act as **a trusted first point of contact** and then pass information to local authority or support agencies where appropriate.
(ASP statistics for 2025)

Emergency services support was also provided when required, including **one ambulance-related emergency call**, with emergency service attendance recorded on **two occasions**. (ASP statistics for 2025)

The continuing partnership between local churches, Kent Police, Ashford Borough Council and other community safety organisiations enables Ashford Street Pastors to provide a unique and valued service that contributes to public safety, community cohesion and the wellbeing of vulnerable people within Ashford town centre. This work would not be possible without the commitment, dedication and generosity of our volunteers and supporters. (ASP statistics for 2025)

Ashford Street Pastors End of Year
Finance Statement 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025

The Street Pastors Accounts show a total surplus of £4,565.74 at the end of the year.

Firstly, thanks to you all for your continued support over the last 12 months. This year was business as usual for Ashford Street Pastors, as well as patrolling, we have continued to operate our save space vehicle SS1. This has continued to prove its worth within the nighttime economy here in Ashford, supporting our weekly patrols and supporting the people of Ashford.

Ashford Street Pastors at the end of 2025 have just over a quarter's year's funds in reserve. Which does not sound good and it's the lowest we have been since we began. I do want to thank Susan for her hard work on the bid writing and grant forms etc., which is becoming harder with fewer grants available. I really do the easy bit, creating and managing the accounts. In 2024 we received a total income of £9,090.15, which is down when compared to FY 2024 by £4,801.49. This is due to not receiving any grants towards the coordinator fees in 2025; this meant we transferred £5,000.00 from general funds to cover a year-end deficit on the coordinators fund.

At the end of December 2025, we were receiving £375 per month via 23 standing orders. This income is from 6 volunteers and 15 Friends of Ashford Street Pastors and 2 churches, which has increased by £45 a month from FY end 2024. We need to continue to promote this as a way of supporting us. Please continue to give out the Friends of Ashford Street Pastors leaflet that contains how to set up a standing order form with our bank details.

Total expenditure for 2025 was £14,956.08, which was within budget. The general fund made a surplus, but the equipment fund used reserves for purchases whilst the coordinators fund needed a transfer from the general fund to avoid ending the year in deficit.

Lastly, if anyone would like further information, or do not understand anything on the reports, please feel free to contact me on the below email address: ***rob.saunders@salvationarmy.org.uk***

Thank you all for your support.

Regards

Rob Saunders Ashford Street Pastors Treasurer Date: 26.09.2026



Ashford Street Pastors End of Year Finance Statement 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025

The Street Pastors Accounts show a total surplus of £10,431.67 at the end of the year.

	Main Accounts	Equipment Reserve	Coordinators Accounts
Carried B/Fwd. from 31st Dec 2024	= 8,032.08	= 579.66	= 1,819.93
Income	= 5,157.40	= 0.00	= 3,932.75
Expenditure	= (4,338.73)	= (166.80)	= (10,450.55)
Transfers In/Out	= (5,000.00)	= 00.00	= 5,000.00
Operating Balance C/Fwd. to 2026	= 3,850.75	= 412.86	= 302.13
Overall, Balance C/Fwd. to 01.01.26	= 4,565.74		

Bank Account Balance 31.12.25	= 4,520.13
Cash in Hand Total	= 45.61
Current Liabilities	= 00.00
Total Funds	= 4,565.74

We Sign to say that the attached accounts are a true record of Accounts for Ashford Street Pastors for the Year 2025 to 31st December 2025

Name: Rob Saunders Signed _____

Date: 14/10/2026 Ashford Street Pastors Treasurer

Name: T. SHANMUGAM Signed _____

Date: _____ Ashford Street Pastors Management Committee Chairman

Name: Stephen Windsor Signed: _____

Date: 14/10/2026 Independent Accountant Qualifications: *MAAT*

Accounts Prepared by Rob Saunders
Ashford Street Pastors Treasurer Date: 26.09.2026

Ashford Street Pastors – Charity No. 1162670

Annual Finance summary of income and expenditure report prepared for the Annual General Meeting 2026 attached separately

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above. Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees/directors.

Rob Saunders Trustee/Treasurer
Susan Boulden Trustee/Secretary

15th October 2026

Mission Statement

Ashford Street Pastors is a Christian volunteer organisation providing care, support, listening and safeguarding for vulnerable people in the community, working collaboratively with churches, police and local authorities to advance public safety and social inclusion demonstrating the Christian faith through service.

ASHFORD STREET PASTORS
From 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025
Summary Income and Expenditure by Section

Summary by Section / Fund			Balance at 31/12/24	Income	Expenditure	Trans In SZA1099
AAA	Z01	Ashford Street	-8,032.08	0.00	0.00	-818.67
AAA	M04	Ashford Street	-579.66	0.00	0.00	166.80
HA1	Z01	Ashford Street	-1,819.93	0.00	0.00	-5,000.00
		TOTALS	**-10,431.67**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**-5,651.87**

Ashford Street Pastors Total Income and Expenditure Summary 2025

		Actuals 2025	Budget 2025	Variance
Income		**£**	**£**	**£**
SAA1133	Cartridge Giving / Section	0.00	0.00	0.00
SAA2211	Donations & Gifts from the	-2,295.00	0.00	-2,295.00
SAA2216	Donations&Gifts from exte	-2,396.86	-2,100.00	-296.86
SAC1111	Grants Local / Central go	0.00	-4,500.00	4,500.00
SEZ0055	Other Grants Receivable	0.00	-5,500.00	5,500.00
	Total Income	-4,691.86	-12,100.00	7,408.14
Expenditure		**£**	**£**	**£**
SMZ1105	Professional/Legal/Consul	0.00	0.00	0.00
SJZ1140	Furniture & Equipment Pu	0.00	5,500.00	-5,500.00
SHZ1110	Food	0.00	0.00	0.00
SLW1122	Training	0.00	400.00	-400.00
SEZ9944	Contribution to the Ascens	0.00	3,037.50	-3,037.50
SJZ1150	Printing & Stationery	771.19	2,740.00	-1,968.81
SMZ1105	Professional/Legal/Consul	0.00	750.00	-750.00
SPA1133	Bank Charges	561.72	2,250.00	-1,688.28
SKA1122	Car Business expenses	0.00	350.00	-350.00
SKC1122	Other Expenditure	2,105.98	4,760.00	-2,654.02
SLW1111	Community Service - Relie	60.36	200.00	-139.64
	Total Expenditure	3,499.25	19,987.50	-16,488.25
	Net Income and Expenditure	-1,192.61	7,887.50	-9,080.11
	Balance Brought Forward 31.12.2024	-10,431.67		
	Total Surplus / Deficit at 31.12.2025	-11,624.28		

sfers Out SZB2099	Net Movement 2025	Balance c/f 12/31/2025
5,000.00	4,181.33	-3,850.75
0.00	**166.80**	-412.86
0.00	**-5,000.00**	-6,819.93
5,000.00	**-651.87**	**-11,083.54**

Description / Coments
Giving From Current Members
Giving From Former Members & Public
Grants and gifts from Churches
Grants from ABC & KCC
Grants from other Trusts & Kent Police
Cordinator Costs
Equipment Costs
Food Costs
Training Costs
Contributions to the Ascension Trust
Printing and Stationary Costs
License Fee's insurance Costs etc
Bank Charges
SS1 Vehicle Costs plus Parking Charges
Other Expenditure
Cost of Lollie Pops and Flip Flops etc