SOUTHEND CITY BAPTIST CHURCH

www.scbchurch.org.uk

Southend City Baptist Church
Charity number 1192598
Annual Report January – December 2025

Purpose & Vision

Our purpose is to nurture an emerging missional church among adults who are experiencing homelessness or are vulnerably housed in Southend. In partnership with God, each other and the wider family of God, we seek to express church through sharing the unchanging Gospel of Jesus in new ways through:

- Being a welcoming, loving and inclusive community
- Being whole-life oriented, where God's invitation is received to live 'life in fullness'
- Being a community intent on realising God's purposes and God's plans for Southend-on-Sea

Church Trustees

Trustees: Pamela Ring (Minister), David Tickett (Treasurer), Nicky Williamson (Designated Person for Safeguarding), Jaimes Higginson (Health & Safety), Anne Hine (Wellbeing) and David Yallop (Community Fundraising).

Volunteer & Premises Co-ordinator: Julie McEvoy's role continued to include a shared responsibility for Community Development this year as well as oversight of bookings for private use of space, which has helped SCBC to build community links with local groups.

Volunteering

Trustees: 6
Drop in (daytime and evening): 22
Community Volunteers: 3

Activities

This year SCBC has provided:

Sleeping bags: 20
Takeaway coffees: 20
Snack bags: 5
Winter packs (hats, scarf and gloves): 20
Foodbank Vouchers: 30
Winter coats, trousers and jumpers: 10

Housing referrals to external organisations: 15
Signposting to further support: 25

At drop-in sessions, there were 130 unique community members, with an average attendance of 18 per session. SCBC ran three workshops throughout the year including a games session which has built a regular community of chess and scrabble players, who also attend drop-in sessions during the week.

Ordination service: September 2025 saw the ordination of our Minister, with visitors from the Regional Ministry team, local churches / networks and the wider SCBC community. We spent several weeks working on a piece of community artwork which was unveiled on the day and spent an interactive service telling the story of the church, worshipping and praying together. This culminated with the design of our mosaic cross (pictured).





Partnership Working
Throughout 2025, we continued to work in partnership with the following organisations:

- Southend Homeless Action Network
- Southend Church Leaders' Network
- Eastern Baptist Association

Locally, Southend City Baptist Church regularly signposted to other services including HARP, St Vincent de Paul and the Forward Trust. This year, SCBC was represented on the Regional Leaders forum, in partnership with Love Southend, the Anglican church and the Methodist church. This led to the Regional Leaders Housing

conference being hosted at SCBC, where Southend on Sea City Council provided the keynote input for this event, which was supported by local housing providers and charities alike. In addition, our Minister facilitated the Eastern Baptist Association Justice Hub which explored various themes, with a focus on housing throughout 2025.

Finance and Governance

Finance: The church has developed in two key areas of governance over the course of the year. The first is in financial viability, as SCBC now demonstrates the beginnings of financial sustainability following a long period of uncertainty. A combination of income streams (highlighted below) has led to a strengthened financial position that we hope to build on in the year ahead.

Premises: The trustee team have taken on a focus of building safety for the year. Monthly walkarounds between trustees and staff members, actioned by our Premises Coordinator, have led to a much safer building and highlight the preventative approach to building safety which has been adopted by the current leadership team. The team anticipate building on this in the year ahead, partly through exploration of the Rocha Eco Church Awards system – SCBC is currently working towards a Bronze Award with support of the Regional Eco Church Enablers.

The Year Ahead

Leadership: 2026 is an exciting year for SCBC as community members take on a range of new roles and responsibilities covering a period of maternity leave for our Minister. These volunteer roles range from new trustees, to representatives across local networks which encourage our community to adopt a team approach to ministry, offering significant markers of health and maturity across the church. SCBC has appointed Rev Andrew Picton as moderator for this season and church leaders are supported by several additional roles, such as Chaplain to the trustees, advisor to our staff team and further guidance from the Regional Team as required.

Night shelter: SCBC made the difficult decision not to facilitate the night shelter for the second year running due to a lack of communication around statutory funding. Despite having requested updates from the Council in January and from the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government over the summer, only £9k was allocated towards the cost of a shelter in November 2025. With the shelter due to accommodate 35-50 adults for a four-month period at a cost of £91,000, this left SCBC in an untenable position without sufficient time to grant fund the additional funds required. SCBC has reached out to the Council to raise concerns about a lack

of night shelter and to encourage early conversation about the potential for this facility in 2026-7.

Housing: Finally, SCBC has ambitious plans to increase our supported housing provision, which has been successfully renovated by member John Raine, funded by the Avenue Trust and managed by Stephen's Place charity. In an excellent example of local partnerships outworking creative thinking, we intend to expand this provision by renovating unused office space within the church to house up to an additional four people. Our community has voted in support of this activity during the summer of 2025 and we look forward to seeing lives transformed as housing security is made possible for those who otherwise struggle to access suitable accommodation.

Fundraising Plan for 2025

2025 brought in various streams of funding, most notably:

- Grants received towards staff salaries – these contributed to our two staff roles and were supported by the Baptist Union Mission & Ministry and Essex Community Foundation respectively
- Donations received towards the cost of the evening drop-in which were received in place of the Winter Night Shetler
- Rental income from use of premises and the car park which generated much needed unrestricted funding which enabled us to maintain a safe premises
- Individual giving which, in addition to the above, has offered a huge encouragement to our community and reiterated the value of this ministry

Throughout 2026, SCBC will continue to work towards financial sustainability, increasing each of the above income streams with a view to reducing Mission & Ministry funding over the coming years. Accounts for the year January-December 2025 are attached to this report. We would especially like to thank our key funders for their continued support of our work and ministry:

- The Baptist Union of Great Britain
- Shoebury & Thorpe Bay Baptist Church
- South Shoebury Parish
- Essex Community Foundation
- Love Southend

Thank you on behalf of the Southend City Baptist Church community.

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name
SOUTHEND CITY BAPTIST CHURCH

On accounts for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2025

Charity no (if any) 1192598

Set out on pages 1-3

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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 in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: 

Date: 25/08/2026

Name: JOHN EDWARD WIDDOWS

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
SOUTHEND CITY BAPTIST CHURCH	1192598

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/01/2025		31/12/2025

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					
Interest	1	-	-	1	1
Regular Giving	3,108	-	-	3,108	3,000
Other Revenue	6,994	12,000	-	18,994	17,598
Rental Income	46,194	-	-	46,194	42,405
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
***Sub total** (Gross income for AR)*	56,297	12,000	-	68,297	63,004
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	56,297	12,000	-	68,297	63,004
A3 Payments					
Energy	5,557	-	-	5,557	3,256
Salaries	38,018	12,000	-	50,018	46,578
Pension Costs	902	-	-	902	900
Repairs & Maintenance	10,300	-	-	10,300	9,567
Insurance	2,161	-	-	2,161	2,104
Cleaning	975	-	-	975	125
Telephone & Internet	1,130	-	-	1,130	960
Other Costs	1,677	-	-	1,677	1,234
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	60,720	12,000	-	72,720	64,724
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	60,720	12,000	-	72,720	64,724
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 4,423	-	-	- 4,423	- 1,720
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	- 4,423	-	-	- 4,423	- 1,720

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 £
	Cooperative Bank	21,336	-	-
	TSB	5,018	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	26,354	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
Accounts Receivable	3,350	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

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)
Property - 6 Clarence Rd	Property	-	750,000
Property - Former Manse	Property	-	345,000
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
Avenue Baptist Church		2,498	
STBBC		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	DAVID TICKLE	12/09/26
	JOHN RAINE	12/09/26

02/09/2026

Profit and Loss

Southend City Baptist Church (SCBC)
For the year ended 31 December 2025

Account	2025
Turnover	
Interest Income	0.43
Other Revenue	18,994.75
Regular Giving	3,107.97
Total Turnover	**22,103.15**
Gross Profit	**22,103.15**
Administrative Costs	
Audit & Accountancy fees	165.00
Charitable and Political Donations	50.00
Church Services	28.80
Cleaning	975.27
Drop-in Expenses	370.16
Electricity - Church	3,078.00
Electricity - Flat	625.48
Gas - Church	898.06
General Expenses	140.00
Housing Benefit	8,500.00
Insurance	2,161.44
IT Software and Consumables	482.23
Legal Expenses	47.00
Light, Power, Heating	946.52
Ordination	187.23
Pensions Costs	902.44
Postage, Freight & Courier	14.88
Printing & Stationery	7.80
Rates	151.00
Repairs & Maintenance	10,300.81
Salaries	41,517.74
Telephone & Internet	1,130.15
Travel - National	40.50
Total Administrative Costs	**72,720.51**
Operating Profit	**(50,617.36)**
Other Income	
Rental Income	46,194.39
Total Other Income	**46,194.39**
Profit on Ordinary Activities Before Taxation	**(4,422.97)**
Profit after Taxation	**(4,422.97)**

Balance Sheet

Southend City Baptist Church (SCBC)
As at 31 December 2025

Account	31/12/2025
Fixed Assets	
Tangible Assets	
Computer Equipment	1
Office Equipment	351
Property - 6 Clarence Rd	750,000
Property - Former Manse	345,000
Total Tangible Assets	**1,095,352**
Total Fixed Assets	**1,095,352**
Current Assets	
Cash at bank and in hand	
Coop 35DN	20,000
Coop C&C Current	1,336
TSB	5,018
Total Cash at bank and in hand	**26,354**
Accounts Receivable	3,350
Total Current Assets	**29,704**
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	
Avenue Baptist Church	2,498
STBBC	0
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**2,498**
Net Current Assets (Liabilities)	**27,206**
Net Assets	**1,122,558**

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		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

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		-	-
		-	-

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