Mothers' Union Diocese of Leicester

Registered Charity Number: 250038

Trustees' Annual Report & Consolidated Accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2025

Legal and administrative information

Registered Charity Name: The Mothers' Union (Diocese of Leicester Branch)

Charity Number: 250038

Address: St Martins House
7 Peacock Lane
Leicester
LE1 5PZ

Trustees:

Ruth Fryer	Diocesan President
Margaret Rouse	Past Diocesan President
Susan Wilson	Past Diocesan President
Mary Clarkson	
Noreen Mewies	
Eileen Payne	

The Trustees are constituted as follows:

Diocesan President	elected by the membership
Up to two Past Diocesan Presidents	chosen by them
Up to seven Trustees	elected by the membership

Administrator: Kate Cooper

Honorary Treasurer Susan Wilson

Bankers: CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner: Robert P. Appleby, MA, FCA
Rutland House, 23–25 Friar Lane, Leicester, LE1 5QQ

Trustees' Annual Report 1 January to 31 December 2025

Mothers' Union Diocese of Leicester is a charity federated to similar charities bearing the same name, and with the same Aim and Objects and sharing the same ethos and direction as the central charity. It is governed by its own constitution (revised September 2024). The elected Board of Trustees makes major decisions and carries out or enables practical projects. The elected Chair of Trustees (Diocesan President) attends Provincial Conference and reports back to the Diocese. One part-time administrator is employed for 9 hours per week. All trading is channelled through Mothers' Union Enterprises Ltd.

The aim of Mothers' Union is to advance the Christian religion in the sphere of marriage and family life and this is focused on five objectives: to promote and support marriage; to encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children; to maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service; to promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children; to help those whose family life has met with adversity.

There are 500 Mothers' Union members in Leicester Diocese. Most are members of branches in Anglican churches throughout the Diocese; others (Diocesan Members) pay their subscription and receive mailings direct from our Leicester office and have the option of meeting in groups but without the administration involved in a branch. All are invited to attend our Members' Forum meetings, which are held twice per year to enable members to meet each other and to hear news of Mothers' Union work locally, nationally and internationally.

Members are involved in local projects and ministry as well as supporting the work of the central Mothers' Union charity. Involvement includes prayer, volunteer time, donating goods or funds. All our events and projects welcome involvement from members and non-members alike. We try to encourage new membership wherever possible and keep our local work under review to try to be as effective as possible.

In 2025, we were, once again, able to organise and fund a holiday on the east coast for 10 Leicestershire families who had either never had a holiday or not had one for several years. Our Away From It All Holiday Project provides a fully-funded holiday in self-catering caravans at Haven Golden Sands Holiday Park in Mablethorpe. This holiday park has free activities and amusements for families,

as well as being close to the beach. We also provide return transport and a generous grocery pack for each family. Members of the organising committee accompany the families to provide friendly support throughout the holiday. The holiday provides families with a welcome break from daily pressures. Families are referred to us by Mothers' Union members, clergy, health visitors, teachers, social workers or other agencies. Mothers' Union members, with occasional very welcome support from local charities, raise the money needed to provide the holiday and their funds are put to very good use. In 2025 we received generous donations from Barwell Poor's Platt Charity and the Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service Rudolph Fund.

Members continued to support local initiatives to help families in need, including those of prisoners, vulnerable and elderly people throughout the year. We kept them regularly informed of current needs as they collected items such as clothes, toiletries and equipment for babies and mothers; Easter eggs; Easter and Christmas craft items; women's underwear; hats, gloves, scarves and toiletries. We donated Easter eggs, Christmas gifts and craft items to HMP Leicester and HMP Gartree and to Women's Aid. Via a prison chaplain, we sent Christmas cards to prisoners at HMP Fosse Way.

Requests for support from our Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire project fund continued to grow during 2025, especially in the prevailing financial climate where many people struggled to afford basic items. Requests for basics such as shampoo, toothpaste and washing powder were common, so the basic homemaker pack now always includes these. Volunteers continued to knit blankets and hats for the colder months. Requests for clothing for children of all ages increased. Baby items were still much needed, and also help to buy nappies for older disabled children. Some items were sourced from charity shops. The support of Mothers' Union members for this work helping others was very much appreciated.

One trustee represents Mothers' Union on the Diocesan Panel for Social Responsibility, and another is involved in the Diocesan response to modern-day slavery.

We continue to maintain a prayer chain to support anyone in need. We keep contact with members who are housebound by sending greetings cards and letters. As well as information by email, we produced our printed Diocesan newspaper three times in 2025, with the option of a digital copy for those who

would prefer it. The printed version is still a very important method of communication, particularly for those who do not have internet access.

We continue to work hard to establish and maintain contact with our five Mothers' Union prayer partners in Kenya, Nigeria (2), Solomon Islands and Zambia. We continue to pray for them all, encouraging all members to particularly remember them at the end of June and beginning of July each year when our group appears in the Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer schedule.

Funds generously donated by our members during 2024 to support the Mothers' Union project to combat Female Genital Mutilation in the Diocese of Kiteto in Tanzania were sent early in 2025. In March 2025 Bishop Isaiah retired and was replaced by Bishop Bethuel. In September our Diocesan President visited Kiteto and discussed the project with Bishop Bethuel and his wife Agnes. They intended to continue the project, but needed some time to make their own plans. We paused fundraising for the project during the autumn, with the intention of restarting once Bishop Bethuel and Agnes had submitted their own proposal to us. This was confirmed when they visited Leicester Diocese in November.

We continued to support the work of the central organisation by selling Mothers' Union cards and gifts among our members and friends. Our Diocesan MU Enterprises Representative orders in bulk, but individuals can also put in orders. We received 10% commission on all our purchases, whether made by our Representative or by individuals.

We promoted events organised by central Mothers' Union throughout the year. Online Midday Prayers Monday to Saturday each week, led by central staff or members, continued to be a great success, with members participating from all over the world. We also encouraged members to support central fundraising appeals if they were able. Central Mothers' Union have continued to provide resources for members on their website.

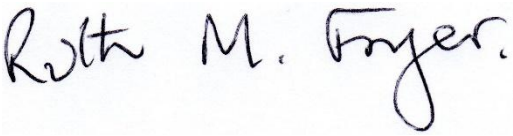
We are very grateful to the Diocese of Leicester for accommodating our part-time Administrator in St Martins House, Leicester, where she works one part-day each week. Her remaining hours are flexible and worked at home.

We are grateful to all our members for their financial support. However, in common with most other dioceses in Britain and Ireland, falling membership remains a concern.

Assessment and mitigation of risk is undertaken by the Finance and Administration Working Group and reported to the Trustees. The Trustees are paying due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit as we seek to meet our charitable objectives. The Trustees formally adopted the Central Mothers' Union Safeguarding Policy in January 2025.

Prepared by Susan Wilson, Diocesan Treasurer.

The report was approved by the Trustees on 26th October 2026.



On behalf of the Trustees

Consolidated Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Subscriptions		2,435	11,689	14,124	15,300
Insurance		99		99	106
Diocesan General Fund		4,696		4,696	2,624
Gift Aid Income Tax recovered		2,227		2,227	2,420
Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme		246		246	-
MU Enterprises sales commission		365		365	480
Recycling		795		795	757
Investment income		972	241	1,213	1,429
FGM Tanzania			482	482	1,979
Other income		197		197	20
Britain & Ireland Development Fund			572	572	204
MSH Summer of Hope			23	23	263
MSH General Fund			3,500	3,500	2,421
MSH Christmas Appeal			38	38	-
Away From It All Holiday Project	**1**		4,353	4,353	3,960
Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire	**2**		1,214	1,214	1,478
Difference in Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire funds					141
Total receipts		**12,032**	**22,112**	**34,144**	**33,582**

Payments					
MSH subscriptions		180	22,077	22,257	12,630
Staff salary		5,897		5,897	5,616
Insurance		480		480	450
Stationery & equipment		80		80	23
Postage		325		325	215
Bank charges		85		85	60
Meeting room hire & Zoom		127		127	90
MUspaper		3,091		3,091	3,787
Officials' expenses		154		154	104
Training		322		322	167
Diocesan events		188		188	104
MSH publications		66		66	69
Canterbury Province		302		302	115
Other expenditure		197		197	20
Britain & Ireland Development Fund			204	204	204
MSH Summer of Hope Appeal			263	263	263
MSH General Fund			2,421	2,421	2,421
MSH Christmas Appeal			38	38	-
Away From It All Holiday Project	**1**		4,855	4,855	5,855
Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire	**2**		1,348	1,348	1,478
FGM Tanzania			2,323	2,323	-
Modern Slavery				-	60
Prisons		35		35	35
Difference in MU Literature cash funds	**3**	132		132	
Difference in MU Literature assets	**3**				166
Difference in funds held by branches					471
Total payments		**11,661**	**33,529**	**45,190**	**34,403**

Away From It All Holiday Project Restricted Fund:					
			2025		**2024**
			£		**£**
Receipts					
Balance at 1st January			8,817		10,394
Donations			2,653		3,460
Grants			1,700		500
Interest on CBF account			241		281
Total			**13,411**		**14,635**
Payments			4,855		5,855
Balance at 31 December			**8,556**		**8,780**
Payments					
Accommodation			3,025		3,868
Coaches			1,440		1,400
Food			304		500
Expenses			86		87
Total			**4,855**		**5,855**

Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire Restricted Fund:					
Receipts					
Balance 1 January			5,722		5,582
Donations			1,214		1,478
Total			**6,936**		**7,060**
Payments			1,348		1,338
Balance 31 December			**5,588**		**5,722**

FGM Project Restricted Fund:					
Receipts					
Balance 1 January			2,324		345
Donations			482		1,979
Total			**2,806**		**2,324**
Payments			2,323		-
Balance 31 December			**483**		**2,324**

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS SUMMARY					
		Unrestricted Funds	**Restricted Funds**	**Total 2025**	**Total 2024**
		£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Receipts		**12,032**	**22,112**	**34,144**	**33,582**
Payments		**11,661**	**33,529**	**45,190**	**34,403**
Net receipts/(payments)		**371**	**(11,417)**	**(11,046)**	**(821)**
Cash funds brought forward 1 January		**27,510**	**30,187**	**57,697**	**49,626**
Cash funds 31 December		**27,881**	**18,770**	**46,651**	**48,805**

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER 2025					
	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
		£	£	£	£
CAF Bank Cash Account		4,004	8,992	**12,996**	24,110
CAF Bank Gold Account		3,679		**3,679**	3,610
CBF Deposit Account		19,736		**19,736**	19,736
Nat West MU Literature account	**3**	355		**355**	508
MU Literature cash in hand	**3**	105		**105**	84
CBF Away From It All Holiday Project account	**1**		5,405	**5,405**	5,405
Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire account	**2**		4,374	**4,374**	5,722
Total cash funds		**27,879**	**18,771**	**46,650**	**59,175**
Funds held by branches	**4**		4,331	**4,331**	3,849
MU Literature stock	**3**	503		**503**	517
Liabilities	**5**	(67)	(4,144)	**(4,211)**	(14,735)

Notes to the accounts

1. Away From It All Holiday Project Restricted Fund

Fund balance at 31 December 2025 was £8,556.

2. Supporting Homeless in Leicestershire Restricted Fund

On 10 November 2025 Lloyds Bank advised us that they would be closing this account on 28 February 2026 as it was the wrong type of account for the fund. The Trustees agreed, on 25 November 2025, that the funds should be transferred to the main diocesan CAF Bank account. In February 2026 the balance of £4,374 was transferred to the CAF Cash account. The donations of £1,214 remained in the CAF Cash account at the end of 2025 as the Lloyds account was about to close. In 2023 £61 was overpaid to the Supporting Homeless account from the General Account. This will be rectified in the 2026 accounts.

3. MU Literature Unrestricted Fund

Stock is bought at retail price from Mothers' Union Enterprises Ltd. £39 of dated or damaged stock was written off during 2025.

4. Funds held by branches

At 31 December 2025 Mothers' Union Diocese of Leicester had 20 branches. The total assets held at 31 December 2025 by the 19 branches which submitted returns was £4,331.

5. Liabilities at 31/12/25	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Late subscriptions 2025		49	49
Postage	14		14
Meeting room hire	30		30
Officials' expenses	11		11
MSH publications	12		12
Donations to central MU Funds		4,095	4,095
	67	**4,144**	**4,211**

6. Trustees' expenses

A total of £717 was reimbursed to four Trustees for out-of-pocket expenses during 2025 to cover travel (conferences, AFIA holiday, group meetings), AFIA holiday expenses, postage, stationery, cards for Indoor Members & prisoners, use of a Trustee's Zoom account.

7. Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared on a cash receipts and payments basis. Amounts owed at the year end, MU Literature stock and funds held by branches are shown in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities but are not included in receipts and payments.

The 2024 figures are shown as approved last year. They included some non-cash items, so the 2024 funds carried forward of £48,805 were stated after deducting liabilities of £14,735 and adding branch funds of £3,849 and stock of £517.

The 2025 account therefore starts from the cash held at 1 January 2025 of £57,697. This is the total cash of £59,175 as at 31 December 2024, less £1,478 of SHIL donations. That amount was included in both the CAF Cash and SHIL account balances until it was transferred in 2025. Payments in 2025 include £13,257 paid to settle the 2024 liabilities.

This is a change of presentation only and does not affect the charity's overall financial position at 31 December 2024

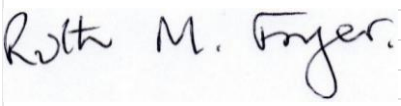
The opening allocation between unrestricted and restricted funds has been adjusted by £539 to reflect 22 subscriptions for 2025 received in advance during 2024 and paid to central MU in September 2025. This does not change the opening cash or funds.

This is the financial position of Mothers' Union Diocese of Leicester as at 31 December 2025.

The accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis under section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.

Prepared by Susan Wilson, Diocesan Treasurer

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 26th October 2026.



Ruth Fryer, Diocesan President, on behalf of the Trustees

Independent Examiner's Report on the accounts

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees and members of Mothers' Union Diocese of Leicester on accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025, set out on pages 7 to 10 of this document

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Mothers' Union Diocese of Leicester (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees the Charity 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 Charity'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 to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity 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 in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Robert P. Appleby, MA, FCA
Rutland House
23-25 Friar Lane
Leicester
LE1 5QQ
29th October 2026