Charity registration number: 273854

UNAFFILIATED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES CHARITIES

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 31 DECEMBER 2025

UNAFFILIATED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES CHARITIES

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UNAFFILIATED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES CHARITIES

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Registered charity name	Unaffiliated Congregational Churches Charities
Charity number	273854
Principal office	1 The Sycamores Riddlesden Keighley BD20 5EF
Bankers	National Westminster Bank plc 16 South Parade Nottingham NG1 2JX
Solicitors	Anthony Collins Solicitors 134 Edmond Street Birmingham B3 3ES
Auditors	Horsfield & Smith Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor Tower House 269 Walmersley Road Bury Lancashire BL9 6NX

UNAFFILIATED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES CHARITIES

TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

The Trustees are pleased to present their Report and the Financial Statements of the Charity for the year ended 31st December 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the Charity governing document, the Charities Act 2011 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 published on 16 July 2014.

THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees who served the Charity during the period 1st January to 31st December 2024 were as follows:

Co-optative from the Unaffiliated Congregational Churches (UCC)
Mrs L Perry (Honorary Chair of Trustees)
Revd G. Cooke
Pastor M J Valentine

Nominative Trustees from the Congregational Federation (CF)
Mrs Y Campbell (from March 2025)
Revd C Damp
Mr J A Lyon

Nominative Trustees from the Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches (EFCC)
Dr D L James (Honorary Secretary of Trustees)
Mr P K Walker
Mr K I Davies

Achievements and performance

During 2025 the Trustees met on three occasions to consider and fulfil the business of the Charity. The March meeting was held at the Reform Club in London, the June Meeting was held at Gladstone's Library in Hawarden and the November Meeting was held on Zoom.
Of the nine appointed Trustees:
Seven Trustees attended three Meetings
Two Trustee attended two Meetings
The Executive Officer attended all three meetings.

The Board were pleased to welcome one new Nominative Trustee, Mrs Yvonne Campbell, the General Secretary of the Congregational Federation. The Executive Officer issued all the relevant information concerning the responsibilities of Charity Trusteeship as provided by the Charity Commission to the new Trustee prior to attending her first Trustee Meeting in March.

On 1st November 2024 the Revd Fredrik Rich began as the new Executive Officer, with the Revd Frank Wroe considering to work for the UCCC until the 28th February 2025. This facilitated a smooth handover period and ensured that the new Executive Officer was fully trained.

UNAFFILIATED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES CHARITIES

TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

The situation around the closure of the Congregational chapel in Ebbesbourne Wake continues. During 2025 it appeared that an end to the matter was in sight, with the Congregational Federation indicating their willingness to act as trustees to an approved scheme. However, a fairly new resident to the village, who has become heavily involved in the local village group, has caused issues that prompted the Congregational Federation to withdraw from the proposed trusteeship. At present the way forward is not obvious, but the trustees will continue to seek ways to move forward over the coming year.

Trustees made visits to two churches, one in West Yorkshire and one in Devon. Both visits were successful in that they helped to inform grant decisions and clarify future direction for the churches in question. Both churches have buildings with ongoing problems, but the church members are looking forward positively and considering future opportunities to reach out to their local communities and serve them.

As part of the support of churches experiencing problems with older buildings, the Trustees responded to a grant application from a church in South Wales by awarding them a grant to assist with the necessary repairs. Another church in Hertfordshire was supported by a grant towards the cost of a large building project, made necessary as the church congregation is fast outgrowing their current church building. A church in West Yorkshire was assisted with a grant to pay for a site survey to explore future usage of the church site and buildings.

The Trustees agreed to continue with the services of the Churches Ministerial Counselling Services.

A review of the UCCC Safeguarding Policy was carried out, and a new comprehensive policy was adopted by the Trustees at their June 2025 meeting.

A new Conflict of Interest and Loyalty policy was adopted by the Trustees at their June 2025 meeting, alongside a new Grant Making Policy.

The Trustees considered changes to the Grant Application Form to better reflect the new Grant Making Policy at their November 2025 meeting. A new Grant Application Form should be agreed by the Trustees at their March 2026 meeting.

During 2025 the UCCC papers and records collated during the past 10 or so years have been reviewed and archived by Mr Paul Sillitoe, the archivist who carried out the last exercise. These will be added to the current archive early in 2026.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Nature of governing document

The Unaffiliated Congregational Churches Charities came into being to enable churches that remained independent and did not join either the Congregational Federation or the Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches to receive a fair allocation of the assets of the former Congregational Church in England and Wales, 32 County Union Incorporated Bodies and other apportionable funds. The restrictions to the various funds are laid down in the governing instruments.

The original Charities were founded by the creation of trust funds under a Charity Commission scheme dated 4th January 1977 and in the Charity Commission Scheme the expression "Unaffiliated Congregational Churches" means:

a) Congregational Churches which were in membership with the former Congregational Church in England and Wales or were members of the Congregational Union of England and Wales in the year 1966 and which on the 31st December 1975 were not member churches of the Congregational Federation or of an Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches and
b) Congregational Churches in England and Wales formed after 5th October 1972 which are not members of the Congregational Federation or of an Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches.

Further charities were created by a succession of Charity Commission schemes from 1980 onwards. In August 2008 the Charity Commission approved a new scheme, which amalgamated all the County Union Funds into the 7 main funds of the Unaffiliated Congregational Churches Charities.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

The Charity has nine Trustees of which six are Nominative Trustees: three by the Committee of the Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches (EFCC) and three the Council of the Congregational Federation (CF). These Trustees are nominated by their own grouping for a period of four years on the basis of providing a wide range of skills and experience that will add to and enhance the Charity's existing skill base.

The remaining three Trustees are co-opted, through a ballot of all the listed Unaffiliated Churches, for a period of five years. When a vacancy arises all such churches are contacted and given a specified date by which to submit names of suitable candidates to the Revd Fredrik Rich, the Executive Officer. A profile of each candidate is then obtained and circulated to each listed Unaffiliated Church to enable each church to elect a new Trustee by way of ballot.

At the end of their term the Trustees representing the Unaffiliated Churches are required to confirm whether they wish to continue to act or not. If they express a wish to continue this is ratified by the other serving Trustees at the next scheduled Trustees' Meeting. If they do not wish to continue the process of recruiting a new Trustee begins again.

Induction and training of new Trustees

Most newly elected or appointed Trustees will already be familiar with the practical work of the Charity and they are encouraged to read a copy of the Charity's Handbook as well as being provided with copies of minutes of Trustee meetings for the past year.

All new Trustees are provided with details of "CC3—The Essential Trustee: What you need to know" accessed from the Charity Commission website. This document provides guidance to all Trustees, and those who are about to become Trustees, on what is involved in being a charity trustee.

Prospective new Trustees are also encouraged to attend Trustees' meetings as an observer prior to them being appointed as a Trustee. This is designed to give a practical insight into the issues that arise during such meetings and to introduce them to other Trustees. Before attending their first meeting all new Trustees are asked to sign an automatic disqualification form, confirming their eligibility to serve as the Trustee of a charity.

Organisational structure

Staff
The Charity has no full-time staff but does employ a part-time Executive Officer. Revd Frank Wroe continued in the position of Executive Officer of the Charity until the end of February 2025 and worked an average of three days per week for the Charity. Revd Fredrik Rich was appointed in November 2024 as the new Executive Officer and worked an average of three days per week for the Charity.

Trustees
Mrs L. Perry was elected by the Trustee Board to serve as Chair of Trustees for 2025.
Dr D L James was elected by the Trustee Board to serve as Secretary for 2025.

Major risks and management of those risks

Investments
The Charity has no property other than its Stock Market investments. These investments are held in four charity investment funds, each with a wide-spread portfolio of holdings. The funds comprise a roughly equal split between fixed interest and equity funds, with a slight bias towards equities, and they provide a regular quarterly income to the Charity. The Trustees undertake periodic reviews of the Charity's investments.

Policy on control of fraud
The Trustees have an agreed policy of continuing to use professional charity experienced accountants to audit the Charity's accounts in order to ensure that they remain in line with the Charity Commission accounting and reporting standards.

The policy will ensure that any loan repayments to the Charity are paid in full and within the agreed time scales. This is achieved by the Trustees, through the Executive Officer, obtaining a detailed analysis of income and expenditure, including outstanding and paid loans at each Trustee Meeting.

Financial Review
Incoming resources amounted to £112,389. This is a reduction of £3,100 on the previous year. Investment income has increased £1,944 and other income is up £1,156.

Resources expended amounted to £132,749, an increase of £18,708 on the previous year. Grants to individuals have remained consistent although there has been no ministerial training grant given this year. Other grants have increased £21,737 with £19,308 being awarded this year for church extension Management, administration and governance costs are down slightly bv £243.

Overall, there is a net deficit of £20,360 (2024 : £4,752) prior to investment revaluation. The market value of investments at the year end have increased by £73,727 resulting in an overall surplus for the year of £53,367 (2024 : £52,701).

Total funds carried forward are £2,842,148 (2024 £2,789,447), split £877,024 (2024 £846,795) unrestricted, £666,174 (2024 £670,522) restricted and £1,298,950 (2022 £1,272,130) endowment.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects and aims

To support through grants and low-cost interest loans, personal contact, and encouragement where possible the listed Unaffiliated Congregational Churches, their members, serving ministers, and, where appropriate, retired ministers or their widows or widowers.

Public benefit

The Charity has seven specific funds that allow the Trustees to distribute its income in the form of grants and/or loans where necessary to assist and maintain ministry in individual churches and to assist with the relief of hardship for retired ministers or their widows and widowers. Other areas of assistance include grants for the education of ministers, their children, and students training for the ministry.

Grants and loans are also available to churches for repairs and the ongoing maintenance of buildings or expansion of church buildings and assistance to comply with current building legislation. Where appropriate, grants for regeneration are also considered to assist churches on the point of closure to remain open.

Churches are invited to apply to the Trustees for support by completing an application form, which gives the Trustees specific details of the assistance required by the church. This application will usually be accompanied by two years audited accounts of the church and, in the case of building work, two or three estimates from different builders to support the application. In the case of a grant for maintenance of the ministry or additional ministerial training the minister must possess a clear and current Criminal Record Disclosure Certificate.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission of England and Wales.

Grant making policies

The Charity's main objective is to assist churches and individuals with grants as made from appropriate funds.

At the June 2025 Trustees Meeting a new Grant Making Policy was agreed, which will inform all future grant applications and assist the trustees in their decision making process.

UNAFFILIATED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES CHARITIES

TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

During 2025 the UCCC Trustees were able to award grants to 3 UCCC listed churches and 22 individuals associated with UCCC listed churches. In addition, the following Congregational organisations and groupings were assisted with grants; Congregational History Society, the Congregational Partnership Ltd, the Congregational Federation Ltd, and the Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches Trust Corporation Ltd.

The grants were made from the Charity's following Funds:

Fund	Amount
• General Purposes Fund	£3,550
• Maintenance of the Ministry Fund	£24,700
• Ministerial Training Fund	£9,055
• Church Extension Fund	£20,558
• Welfare Fund	£5,016
• Homes for retired Ministers Fund	£14,941
• Education Fund	£1,050
• Sydney Berry Trust	£5,332
Total	£84,222

The Trustees awarded grants in the following ways:

- £1,000 from the General Purposes Fund was awarded to the Congregational History Society to assist with the administration costs of the Society.

- Other grants from the General Purposes Fund amounted to £2720 for:
  Three Congregational Trust Companies; Congregational Partnership Ltd (£375), Congregational Federation Ltd (£1,250) and the EFCC Trust Corporation Ltd (£125) were given grants to assist them with costs involved in their role of Custodian Trusteeship for fourteen listed Unaffiliated churches.
  (Note: at the 31st December 2025 the Congregational Partnership Ltd had not presented their cheque so anticipate this will be accounted for in the 2026 accounts.)
  The Trustees were also able to assist twelve UCCC ministers and pastors with a resource grant of £150 each.
  (Note: at the 31st December 2025 only nine grants (£1,350) had been presented at the bank the remaining three will be accounted for in the 2026 accounts.)

- Grants were awarded to three churches for a total of £20,558 from the Building Extension fund. One church in West Yorkshire was able to repair windows and have a building survey carried out. One church in South Wales was able to carry out necessary repairs and a further church in Hertfordshire was aided in a major building project.

- One church in South Wales and another one in West Yorkshire, received grants totalling £24,700 for the support of minister's stipends. Both these grants came from the Maintenance of the Ministry Fund.

- The Trustees awarded grants totalling £9,055 from the Ministerial Training Fund:
  One church in Hertfordshire received a grant of £9,055 to assist with the cost of fees for theological training for one of their members at the Union School of Theology, Bridgend.

- Grants totalling £5016 for the relief of hardship were made to five retired ministers and the widows of three former retired ministers of Unaffiliated Churches, which came from the Welfare Fund.

- Grants totalling £14,941 were awarded to five retired ministers and the widows of four retired ministers of Unaffiliated Churches from the Homes for Retired Ministers Fund to assist, with the payment of Council Tax & Water Rate demands.

- Grants totalling £1,050 from the Education Fund were awarded to the seven children of three UCCC ministers to assist with their education.

- Grants totalling £5,332 were made from the Dr Sydney Berry Trust to five retired ministers and the widows of four retired ministers of Unaffiliated Churches.

Loans

From time to time the Charity is able to make low-cost interest loans to churches, to be repaid over a set period of 2, 3 or 5 years, or longer if required, to assist with ongoing repairs or renovations to church property.

The Trustees did not make any loans during 2025 and there were no outstanding loans due for repayment in the year.

Charitable commitments

As part of the policy of continually reviewing all the regular grants, as outlined in the Report of the Trustees the following grant structure for Maintenance of the Ministry, Welfare and various other regular grants is in place. These future grants have been notified to the churches and individuals concerned and with the exception of the grants from Dr Sydney Berry Trust for retired ministers and retired minister's widows, which have not been guaranteed.

Year	£
2026	60,000
2027	58,500
2028	57,000

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies
The Charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk.

Cash flow risk
The Charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in interest rates. Interest bearing assets are held at fixed rate to ensure certainty of cash flows.

Credit risk
The Charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and investments.

The credit risk on liquid funds is limited because the counterparties are banks and have high credit ratings by international credit-rating agencies.

The Charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a number of counterparties.

Liquidity risk
In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the Charity uses investments in charity-managed funds and deposits which are reviewed on a regular basis.

Disclosure of information to auditor
Each Trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a Trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Charity's auditor are aware of that information. The Trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

Reappointment of auditor
The auditors Horsfield & Smith are deemed to be reappointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the Trustees of the Charity on 17/6/26. and signed on its behalf by:

LPerry Signed on 12/11/26.

Mrs L. Perry
Chairman

UNAFFILIATED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES CHARITIES

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 17/6/26 and signed on their behalf by:

LPerry signed on 12/11/26

Mrs L Perry
Trustee

UNAFFILIATED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES CHARITIES

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF

UNAFFILIATED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES CHARITIES

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Unaffiliated Congregational Churches Charities (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2025, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the original financial statements were authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Report) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (set out on page 10), the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity; and
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations through making enquiries of management.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud may occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considered the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed prcedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- enquiring of managment as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the trustees those matters we are required to state to trustees in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Horsfield & Smith is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

.....

Ryan Denner ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Horsfield & Smith, Statutory Auditor

Tower House
269 Walmersley Road
Bury
Lancashire
BL9 6NX

Date: 27/10/26

UNAFFILIATED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES CHARITIES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2025 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Investment income	2	32,272	24,939	52,020	109,231
Other income	3	3,158	-	-	3,158
Total Income		35,430	24,939	52,020	112,389
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4	(22,695)	(17,798)	-	(40,493)
Charitable activities	5	(13,005)	(79,251)	-	(92,256)
Total Expenditure		(35,700)	(97,049)	-	(132,749)
Net (expenditure)/income		(270)	(72,110)	52,020	(20,360)
Gains/losses on investment assets		23,930	18,667	31,130	73,727
Gross transfers between funds		13,621	38,399	(52,020)	-
Net movement in funds		37,281	(15,044)	31,130	53,367
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		877,024	666,174	1,298,950	2,842,148
Total funds carried forward	16	914,305	651,130	1,330,080	2,895,515

UNAFFILIATED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES CHARITIES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025 (CONTINUED)

Prior year Statement of Financial Activities

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Endowment £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Investment income	2	31,409	24,063	51,815	107,287
Other income	3	1,812	190	-	2,002
Total Income		33,221	24,253	51,815	109,289
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4	(23,089)	(18,265)	-	(41,354)
Charitable activities	5	(12,631)	(60,056)	-	(72,687)
Total Expenditure		(35,720)	(78,321)	-	(114,041)
Net (expenditure)/income		(2,499)	(54,068)	51,815	(4,752)
Gains/losses on investment assets		17,208	13,425	26,820	57,453
Gross transfers between funds		15,520	36,295	(51,815)	-
Net movement in funds		30,229	(4,348)	26,820	52,701
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		846,795	670,522	1,272,130	2,789,447
Total funds carried forward	16	877,024	666,174	1,298,950	2,842,148

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2024 is shown in note 16.

UNAFFILIATED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES CHARITIES

BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	13	2,853,247	2,779,520
Current assets			
Debtors	14	25,200	36,200
Cash at bank and in hand	18	24,278	34,425
		49,478	70,625
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	(7,210)	(7,997)
Net current assets		42,268	62,628
Net assets		2,895,515	2,842,148
Funds of the charity:			
Endowment funds		1,330,080	1,298,950
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds		651,130	666,174
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		914,305	877,024
Total funds	16	2,895,515	2,842,148

The financial statements on pages 15 to 34 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on ..17/6/26.. and signed on their behalf by:

.....LPerry..... Signed on 12/11/26

Mrs L Perry
Trustee

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2019.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following Accounting Reporting by Charities peparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities:Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

Unaffiliated Congregational Churches Charities 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 notes.

The financial statements are presented in £ sterling.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income and endowments

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Donations and legacies

Cash donations, gifts, legacies and grants are accounted for in full as they are received. The value of voluntary help is not included in the accounts.

Investment income

Bank interest is accounted for on receipt. Other investment income is accounted for when receivable.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the appliable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources. The irrecoverable element of VAT is included within the item of expense to which it relates. Grants offered subject to conditions, which have not been met at the year end date, are noted as commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in the management of investments.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the Charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

Debtors

Are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of is established when there is objective evidence that they will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Fund structure

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds represent assets which must be held permanently by the Charity. Income from those assets may be used to support the objectives of the Charity.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.
Financial liabilities are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into.

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs),

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the Charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the Charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the Charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

2 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds Expendable £	Total funds £
Interest receivable and similar income;				
Interest receivable on bank deposits	302	-	-	302
Other income from fixed asset investments	31,970	24,939	52,020	108,929
Total for 2025	32,272	24,939	52,020	109,231
Total for 2024	31,409	24,063	51,815	107,287

3 Other income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Other income	2,271	-	2,271
Rental income	887	-	887
Total for 2025	3,158	-	3,158
Total for 2024	1,812	190	2,002

4 Expenditure on raising funds

a) Administrative costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Staff Costs	16,219	12,842	29,061
Administrative expenses	6,476	4,956	11,432
Total for 2025	22,695	17,798	40,493
Total for 2024	23,089	18,265	41,354

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Grant funding of activities	7	9,577	76,661	86,238
Governance costs	6	3,428	2,590	6,018
Total for 2025		13,005	79,251	92,256
Total for 2024		12,631	60,056	72,687

6 Analysis of governance and support costs

Raising funds expenditure

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Audit fees			
Audit of the financial statements	1,914	1,446	3,360
Other fees paid to auditors	1,514	1,144	2,658
Total for 2025	3,428	2,590	6,018
Total for 2024	3,013	2,387	5,400

7 Grant-making

Analysis of grants

	Grants to institutions		Grants to individuals	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Analysis				
General Purposes	2,375	2,680	7,202	6,938
Maintenance of the Ministry	24,700	21,971	-	-
Ministerial Training	9,055	9,050	-	6,000
Church Extension	19,308	-	-	-
Homes for Retired Ministers	-	-	17,532	14,948
Welfare	-	-	5,016	4,800
Education	-	-	1,050	900
	55,438	33,701	30,800	33,586

8 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net outgoing resources for the year include:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Audit fees	3,360	3,000

9 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

£4,629 (2024: £4,417) of expenses were reimbursed to the trustees during the year.

During the year ten trustees were paid expenses in relation to reimbursed meeting expenses.

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

10 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	29,061	29,061
Pension costs	-	2,491
	29,061	31,552

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2025 No	2024 No
Executive officer	1	1

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year

11 Auditors' remuneration

	2025 £	2024 £
Audit of the financial statements	3,360	3,000
Other fees to auditors		
All other non-audit services	2,658	2,400

12 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

13 Fixed asset investments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other investments	2,853,247	2,779,520

Other investments

	Fixed interest investments	Managed funds	Total
	£	£	£
Cost or Valuation			
At 1 January 2025	1,071,568	1,707,952	2,779,520
Revaluation	(41,793)	115,520	73,727
At 31 December 2025	1,029,775	1,823,472	2,853,247
Net book value			
At 31 December 2025	1,029,775	1,823,472	2,853,247
At 31 December 2024	1,071,568	1,707,952	2,779,520

Analysis of investments at 31 December 2025 between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Listed and other investments					
Fixed interest investments	286,192	223,251	520,332	1,029,775	1,071,568
Managed funds	569,482	444,242	809,748	1,823,472	1,707,952
	855,674	667,493	1,330,080	2,853,247	2,779,520

The investments representing more than 5% of the total value are as follows:

	Endowed			Expendable		
	Units	Market Value	%	Units	Market Value	%
Charinco	55354.057	79,686	2.8	82708.374	119,064	4.2
COIF	17231.700	332,949	11.7	23674.980	457,446	16
Charifund	27600.000	476,801	16.7	29207.441	556,275	19.5
COIF Ethical Investments	150164.920	440,644	15.4	133036.060	390,381	13.7
		1,330,080			1,523,166	

14 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Prepayments	200	200
Amounts falling due after more than one year: Interest in property	-	11,000
Amounts falling due after more than one year: Loans to churches	25,000	25,000
	25,200	36,200

The interest in property figure includes loans to churches made on the following basis:

In March 1992, a loan was made to the Congregational Federation Limited to purchase the freehold reversion of Bethesda, Brynmawr, amounting to £11,000. This loan was repsid during the year.

In November 2016 the trustees agreed a loan of £25,000 to the Union Croft Chapel. This loan will only be repayable in the event of the closure of the chapel or if the pastor leaves the chapel.

Loans to churches carry an interest rate set by the Trustees. All such loans are considered recoverable.

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Other taxation and social security	190	995
Accruals	7,020	7,002
	7,210	7,997

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2025 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
General purpose	877,024	35,430	(35,700)	13,621	23,930	914,305
Total unrestricted funds	877,024	35,430	(35,700)	13,621	23,930	914,305
Restricted funds						
Maintenance of ministry	-	3,344	(24,700)	18,853	2,503	-
Ministerial training	231,874	3,238	(16,237)	11,620	2,424	232,919
Church extension	230,768	9,617	(26,157)	2,002	7,198	223,428
Homes for retired ministers	190,501	7,134	(23,453)	4,131	5,340	183,653
Welfare	13,031	1,491	(5,452)	944	1,116	11,130
Education	-	115	(1,050)	849	86	-
Total restricted funds	666,174	24,939	(97,049)	38,399	18,667	651,130

continued

	Balance at 1 January 2025 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2025 £
Endowment funds						
Permanent						
General purpose	768,364	30,771	-	(30,771)	18,414	786,778
Maintenance of ministry	54,720	2,191	-	(2,191)	1,311	56,031
Ministerial training	290,157	11,620	-	(11,620)	6,954	297,111
Church extension	49,978	2,002	-	(2,002)	1,198	51,176
Homes for retired ministers	103,140	4,131	-	(4,131)	2,472	105,612
Welfare	23,578	944	-	(944)	565	24,143
Education	9,013	361	-	(361)	216	9,229
Total endowment funds	1,298,950	52,020	-	(52,020)	31,130	1,330,080
Total funds	2,842,148	112,389	(132,749)	-	73,727	2,895,515

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
General purpose	846,795	33,221	(35,720)	15,520	17,208	877,024
Total unrestricted funds	846,795	33,221	(35,720)	15,520	17,208	877,024
Restricted funds						
Maintenance of ministry	-	3,226	(21,971)	16,945	1,800	-
Ministerial training	237,810	3,124	(22,377)	11,574	1,743	231,874
Church extension	221,132	9,279	(6,814)	1,994	5,177	230,768
Homes for retired ministers	196,476	7,074	(21,003)	4,114	3,840	190,501
Welfare	15,104	1,439	(5,256)	941	803	13,031
Education	-	111	(900)	727	62	-
Total restricted funds	670,522	24,253	(78,321)	36,295	13,425	666,174

continued

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
Endowment funds						
Permanent						
General purpose	752,499	30,650	-	(30,650)	15,865	768,364
Maintenance of ministry	53,590	2,183	-	(2,183)	1,130	54,720
Ministerial training	284,166	11,574	-	(11,574)	5,991	290,157
Church extension	48,946	1,994	-	(1,994)	1,032	49,978
Homes for retired ministers	101,011	4,114	-	(4,114)	2,129	103,140
Welfare	23,091	941	-	(941)	487	23,578
Education	8,827	359	-	(359)	186	9,013
Total endowment funds	1,272,130	51,815	-	(51,815)	26,820	1,298,950
Total funds	2,789,447	109,289	(114,041)	-	57,453	2,842,148

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Maintenance of the Ministry - Income is used for grants to Unaffiliated Congregational Churches or otherwise for maintaining ministry within a Congregational Church.

Ministerial Training - Income is used for training men and women for the ministry of the Congregational Denomination.

Church Extension - Fur the use of the upkeep and repair of property, and the services it provides, of an Unaffiliated Congregational Church. In addition the fund may be used for the extension of existing buildings and in the provision or construction of buildings to be used as a Congregational Church or for residences of ministers of Unaffiliated Congregational Churches.

Homes for Retired Ministers - Income from this fund is to be used to provide accommodation for retired ministers and their widows/widowers in retirement.

Welfare - For use in the relief of need among ministers and their dependents by way of grants 'or otherwise'.

Education - To be used for the benefit of the children of the minister of an Unaffiliated Congregational Church.

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds at 31 December 2025
	£	£	£	£
Fixed asset investments	855,674	667,493	1,330,080	2,853,247
Current assets	65,841	(16,363)	-	49,478
Current liabilities	(7,210)	-	-	(7,210)
Total net assets	914,305	651,130	1,330,080	2,895,515

	Unrestricted funds General	Restricted funds	Endowment funds Expendable	Total funds at 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£
Fixed asset investments	831,744	648,826	1,298,950	2,779,520
Current assets	53,277	17,348	-	70,625
Current liabilities	(7,997)	-	-	(7,997)
Total net assets	877,024	666,174	1,298,950	2,842,148

18 Cash and cash equivalents

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash on hand	20	101
Cash at bank	24,258	34,324
	24,278	34,425

19 Financial instruments

Categorisation of financial instruments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss	2,853,247	2,779,520
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	25,000	36,000
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	7,210	7,997

20 Related party transactions

Congregational History Society Grant: The Reverend Chris Damp, Treasurer of the Society, and Dr Digby James, printer for the Society took no part in the discussion or the decision to award the grant to the Congregational History Society.

UCCC Ministers Resource Grant: Trustees, Pastor Mike Valentine, the Minister of Bradley Congregational Church, Revd Gordon Cooke, Minister of New Inn Congregational Church and Revd Fred Rich, Minister at Allerton Congregational Church and newly appointed UCCC Executive Officer, took no part in the discussion or the decision to award the Ministers resource grant to UCCC ministers. In addition Pastor Valentine requested that he did not personally receive the grant.

Custodian Trustee Grants awarded to the Trust Bodies of: Congregational Federation Ltd, and the Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches Trust Corporation Ltd. The Nominative Trustees from both the Congregational Federation Ltd and the Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches Trust Corporation Ltd, took no part in the discussion or the decision to award the Custodian Trustee Grant for their particular grouping.