DURHAM LESOTHO DIOCESAN LINK

Charity number 702809

Trustees' annual report for the period of January 1st 2025-December 31st 2025

The Link was set up in 1986 as a partnership between the Dioceses of Lesotho and Durham, with a strong developmental element at its heart. Its core belief is that we are all one body in Christ; the Link is a tangible expression of that fact.

The Durham Lesotho Diocesan Link is a registered charity uniting the Anglican dioceses of Durham and Lesotho. Its primary mission is to empower Lesotho's vulnerable children and young people through practical life-skills coaching, outdoor adventure, and holistic mentorship within a safe, supportive, and faith-centered learning environment.
Another key element of the Link's work is the provision of structured developmental training for clergy, lay ministers, church leaders and youth workers - equipping them to serve their communities and become disciple-makers, spreading the gospel and building God's Kingdom.
Whenever feasible, health education and agricultural initiatives are strategically integrated, advancing charitable objectives by alleviating food poverty and fostering community well-being

Throughout the year the Link team in Lesotho remained committed to maintaining their Christian Education Programme and strengthening children's ministries, despite having to navigate financial, operational and organisational setbacks. The Durham Link continued to sustain these core projects with regular funding and worked closely with the Lesotho Link's Executive Officer, Rev. Dr. Joseph Morenammele, to deliver actionable guidance, technical expertise and pastoral support.

Financially, the LINK Centre's trading activities (accommodation, catering, facility hire and outdoor pursuits) matched 2024 revenue levels and outstanding debt was notably reduced. Increased operational costs, however, completely eroded their carried-over surplus; by the year-end, the Lesotho Link held a break-even financial position.
To help protect the LINK Centre's long-term viability, Durham Link Trustees recommended strategic enhancements to fiscal management, focusing on income analysis and cost reduction.
Over time, improved operational efficiency is expected to enable the Lesotho Link to rebuild its financial standing, boosting confidence and renewing resolve.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the trust apply to the Anglican Dioceses of Durham and Lesotho, and are as follows:-

- to facilitate and support the relief of individuals, particularly children, who are in need, hardship or distress
- to facilitate and support the advancement of education
- to facilitate and support the advancement of the Anglican Christian religion

The charity may also:-

- provide books and journals and undertake development projects in conjunction with other appropriate NGOs and funding agencies
- assist and support the provision of medical and educational facilities
- provide other such support or assistance as the Trustees may determine

The Link's Main Activities

The majority of projects and activities take place at the LINK Centre, a residential conferencing, training and outdoor activity venue located in Maseru, Lesotho's capital, and also at the Mohatlane Community Education Centre (MCEC) in the district of Berea. The MCEC offers youngsters and out-of-work adults vocational training in brick laying, carpentry, welding and metalwork, cookery and garment making.

In addition, community-based outreach initiatives are delivered in the surrounding villages and educational workshops are occasionally held to cater for those living in isolated areas of the diocese.
In the UK, gatherings, meetings and presentations are conducted in parish churches, Durham Cathedral, theological training colleges, Church of England schools and other key venues within the Durham diocese.
The Trustees regularly review fund allocation and liaise directly with the Lesotho Link to ensure both the Diocese of Durham and the Diocese of Lesotho benefit from their partnership.

The charity focused primarily on:-
Supporting Lesotho Link's core projects (children's ministries & Christian education)

Supporting Lesotho Link's capacity to generate income

Strengthening and developing governance and best practise (Durham and Lesotho)

The revival of Durham diocese schools Lesotho Programme

Rebuilding the website

Strengthening and developing the partnership

Strengthening and developing diocesan links

This year, to facilitate the Link's objectives and activities, the charity's chief collaborators were Durham Diocese, Rock UK, C of E schools within the diocese and Kick4Life (Lesotho)

Rock UK: UK-based Christian charity providing outdoor activities and adventure
Kick4Life: non-profit charity/social enterprise operating across Lesotho, the UK and the USA - K4L is based in Maseru and uses the power of football to transform vulnerable children's lives

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees confirm they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The Durham Link Executive Officer (EO) regularly collaborates with both the Lesotho Link EO and Finance Department, and reports directly to the Trustee Board. The Trustees are confident the Lesotho Link allocates Durham Link funding primarily to support children's ministries and Christian education, and to improve the LINK's facilities and infrastructure, thereby bolstering its capacity to generate income.
They also take a proactive approach to ensuring restricted capital is apportioned as directed and fully aligns with the Link's objectives.
Additional initiatives are dedicated to encouraging educational links and promoting the Anglican Christian faith across the Diocese of Durham.

Achievements and Performance

Durham Link's EO, Lee Musson, is also Technical Director at Rock UK, a Christian outdoor adventure charity, where he directs the Instructor Training Programme and oversees operations across its four centres. His background in outdoor activities and Christian ministry naturally connects his two roles and has equipped him to successfully coordinate ongoing Rock UK trainee-instructor working visits to the LINK Centre in Lesotho.

The young trainees become wholly involved in the running of specialised Christian activity camps which offer orphaned and marginalised children and young people the chance to escape difficult daily realities, challenge themselves, grow in confidence and become more resilient. They are also expected to fully engage with additional child-focused project work and tackle practical tasks.

Despite language and cultural differences, a shared faith and collaborative spirit unite the Basotho and UK visitors. The partnership not only transforms the lives of Lesotho's children and youth, but also inspires and uplifts all those whose lives they touch.

Appointed to the EO role of the Durham Link in 2023, Lee Musson's managerial skills, outdoor expertise and Christian leadership continue to support and strengthen the Link's mission and ongoing sustainability of the long-standing Christian partnership.

As part of his consultant contract, Lee is required to undertake up to two working visits to Lesotho per year, organised separately or in conjunction with a Rock UK group visit.
His principle role is to undertake all Lesotho Link-related work, primarily:-

- to act as liaison between the two Links;
- to help develop and advance the partnership by providing ongoing mentorship and support for the Lesotho Link EO;
- to Appraise Lesotho Link's finances and general administration, operations and human resources, and offer practical advice and guidance;
- to support the staff and core projects;
- to help to identify any staff development training needs and offer the relevant skills and resources;
- to encourage school/educational programmes and help source local specialist support;
- to support, deliver and promote environmental awareness and sustainability; and
- to advocate succession planning and helping develop a long-term strategy for the future

The Durham Link

In January, Lee led another cohort of Rock UK trainees on a 2-week working trip to the LINK. Their chief mission was to help run children's residential adventure camps for child-headed household (CHH)* and other vulnerable children, many of whom had to be collected via minibus from outlying villages. Camp activities included paddlesports, climbing, abseiling, obstacle and rope courses, interspersed with games, singing and 'God slots' (faith-building, testimonies and prayer). The talent show and tyre 'Olympics organised by the students proved to be hugely popular evening events.

The group's two-week itinerary also included community outreach, participating in presentations at both primary and secondary school assemblies, worshipping in local churches and hiking to the top of Mount Machache. In addition, the trainees conducted exploratory site visits to Link mission partner, Kick4Life, and Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF)** to analyse how these humanitarian NGOs utilise sport and aviation networks to uplift isolated and vulnerable communities.

On-site, together with the Outdoor Activity Klub (OAK) instructors, the trainees were tasked with replacing all the signage and crafting "Lesotho Durham Link" signposts for the Centre's approach road and entrance gate. They also built a crate stack, a team-building adventure game whereby the safety rope catches the climber when the stack topples so they dangle safely in the air: the required full body harnesses, climbing ropes, helmets and belay system were supplied by Rock UK. Although its construction was thwarted by intense thunder and lightning storms, this exciting new addition to the LINK Centre's facilities was certified operational just hours before the group was set to leave.
Clearly visible as they drove away, the road sign they had erected featured the Cross at the centre of the Lesotho Link's logo - an effective way to ''communicate the gospel message'' to arriving visitors, and a poignant reminder of the purpose of their visit.

In the Summer edition of eMoho, one Rock UK trainee describes her time volunteering in Lesotho, noting that the community outreach ''solidified'' her passion to work with children. Her story highlights the profound impact that hands-on, real-world experiences can have on steering career paths and shaping futures.

Before returning to the UK, Lee surveyed the proposed zip wire route, agreed to help run team building games for young Kick4Life football teams next visit, and met with the British High Commissioner, Harry MacDonald, to receive briefings and maintain bilateral ties.

During the EO's September working visit, Lee sought to advance the Link's IT systems and procedures and followed-up on trustees' concerns regarding revenue and HR management.
He was reassured by the ongoing work with children and youth and discussed with the CYD team how this ministry might develop. He also met the Anglican Schools Secretary and helped facilitate a class-to-class connection between a Darlington primary school and one in Lesotho, an initiative that supports the Link's mission to foster mutually beneficial educational exchanges.

Committed to improving safeguarding and staff training, Lee drew much encouragement from the recent child protection workshops organised by Kick4Life. To further develop their training, he delivered targeted safeguarding workshops for both the Leadership and OAK teams. Lee also fitted buoyancy devices to two canoes, enabling 20 OAK instructors to practise deep-water rescues: the exercise was well-received but it highlighted the need for a more clearly defined OAK programme.

Lee continued to prioritise effective communication and personal engagement with all full-time and part-time staff. He also advocated thorough role evaluations and encouraged the team to better articulate, promote and report their core ministries. Before leaving Lesotho, he met with visiting members of Trefoil Guild (UK-based adult branch of girl guiding) at the LINK and attended a lengthy Guild of St Agnes service; Prince Seeiso, the King's brother, was also present.

Throughout the year, trustees concentrated heavily on improving governance, with a particular focus on safeguarding. In July, an extraordinary meeting was held at St Antony's Priory, Durham (a Christian spirituality centre run by SSM UK) to ratify amendments to the charity's governing document.

Improving the charity's presence in the diocese was another key priority. The trustees devoted time to reviving the UK Schools Lesotho Project, establishing class-to-class links between primary schools, as well as maintaining liaison with the Cathedral's Learning and Engagement Manager.

Both Cranmer Hall (Durham) and Lindisfarne College of Theology (North Shields) were consulted on creating a theological learning link with Lesotho. The proposal explored the feasibility of involving Joseph Morenammele in their clergy training programmes, either to co-tutor global Christian mission or ecclesiology modules, or to teach a specific case study.
Investigatory outreach was also conducted with Durham Diocese Mothers' Union.

Later in the year, trustees started planning celebratory events to mark Durham-Lesotho Link's 40th anniversary (May 2026). A dedication was booked at Durham Cathedral and parish churches invited to hold the Durham-Lesotho Link and world mission in prayer. Supporting resources were planned, and the trustees began gathering material for a commemorative leaflet.

Works in progress include the refinement of the new website and newsletter, e-Moho, and researching 'Telling the Story' (a history of the Durham Lesotho Diocesan Link).

While the Lesotho Link's 2023-2025 strategy has delivered notable successes, the organisation has had to overcome significant operational setbacks - and despite ongoing efforts to transition to a more self-reliant, locally-led partnership, the Lesotho Link remains reliant on a £25,000 annual grant from Durham Link.
Over the course of the year, the Durham Link's EO has been instrumental in improving Lesotho Link's accounting practices and addressing trustees' concerns regarding managerial oversight, which have required careful navigation. Progress has been further complicated by successive key staff departures, including the Children and Youth Officer, the EO's Personal Assistant and, most recently, the Conferencing & Hospitality Manager: moreover, the Executive Officer's contract, set to expire in December, has been extended pending the completion of the organisation's revised constitution.

Durham Link trustees are fully committed to the Lesotho Link and continue to advise the Board on corrective strategies to tackle governance, HR challenges, and declining revenue.

The Lesotho Link

For the first few months, core ministries were hindered by the loss of the Children & Youth Officer (CYO), alongside the Board's delay in drawing up employment contracts, delivering training and updating the Board Member Handbook. In August, Joseph collaborated with an external consultant to finalise the initial draft; subsequently, expiring staff contracts were extended for 6 months.

Later in the year, the Lesotho Link faced significant staff shortages following the departure of Joseph's Personal Assistant and the LINK Centre's Conferencing and Hospitality Manager: moreover, the CYO role remained unfilled. While these three key positions were being advertised, a part-time office assistant and a part-time administrator were hired temporarily to maintain operational continuity. In December, Joseph's Executive Officer role was also extended until June 2026.

Durham Link Trustees continued to prayerfully review leadership challenges within the Lesotho Board and consider proactive steps to support local governance and re-attune the partnership.
They also sought clear assurances regarding the security of core Durham Diocesan funding.

Lesotho Link's core projects - children's ministries and Christian education

Children's ministries and Christian education have always been pivotal to the Link's work and are central to LINK Centre operations.

Children's ministries

The Link invests in the health and education of Lesotho's vulnerable children and youth to afford them God's love and respite, and ensure their well-being by providing them with the necessary skills to achieve their potential and contribute to the sustainable development of their local communities.

''The Lesotho Link's mission has always been to support and disciple children and youth, and to make the LINK a place of Christian education, where young lives are transformed through the application of God's word.''

''Our goal is to share the good news holistically and to address student-felt needs, journey with them and listen to them. We want to equip them with life skills so they take care of themselves.''

Lesotho-Durham Link EO, Rev. Dr. Joseph Morenammele

Following the resignation of the Children and Youth Officer early in the year, the Child-Headed Household Coordinator (CHHC), with the assistance of other staff members, took on both roles.
Led by Joseph, a small but dedicated team successfully expanded their outreach by visiting churches and conducting engaging school assemblies. Working in partnership with OneHope (provider of holistic age-tailored Christian resources) and inspired by their vision, they handed out "Light in the Dark'' and "A Better Way to Life'' to every primary and secondary school pupil, and teacher.
The distribution of these popular booklets created positive ministry pathways for them to share the gospel message and promote the LINK Centre within the schools.

Following up on this work, the CYD team invited local students to the centre where they were able to provide academic support and career guidance, helping them prepare for end-of-year exams.
In response to a request for a full-school away-day, despite limited resources, the Children and Youth Department (CYD) led an inspiring Christian retreat. With the invaluable support of two parish priests, the entire school was brought together, uniting over 300 pupils in shared joy through games and outdoor activities: at the day's end, they did not want to leave.

Joseph acknowledged their limitations in effectively managing student behaviour and social challenges. In order to meet the huge demand, he recognised the need for continuous cooperation and ongoing consultations to agree, build and establish a Special Schools Programme - which might ultimately transform educational institutions into centres of Christian learning and training.

Link staff hosted their residential CHH camps at the LINK (see p.3, para.3), while extending their reach to children across 15 villages in rural Mohatlane, offering them outdoor games & faith-building activities. Eager for the CYD team's arrival, the children always gathered well ahead of time.
The Outdoor Activities Klub instructors continued to oversee all outdoor sports and adventure activities and assist in other areas as required.

Christian education

A fundamental objective of the Link's Christian Education Programme is to train and equip individuals to teach others and create a ripple effect of theological education and leadership training within their local churches and communities.

The Christian Education team remains dedicated to providing theological training and mentorship for both clergy and lay ministers, and continues to facilitate opportunities for ministers to attend further discipleship courses and workshops elsewhere in the diocese.
Bishop Kgabe maintained her support but left Lesotho in November to become Bishop of Pretoria, South Africa; the Elective Assembly will convene in March 2026 to elect Lesotho's next bishop.

To incorporate Chrisitan practices into the LINK Centre environment, the CE team began offering ''free 10 minute devotions'' to interested visiting groups and individuals. To further this faith-based focus, short scripture verses have been painted directly onto guest room walls and staff are working alongside The Gideons International to supply & distribute Bibles across all on-site accommodation.

Schools Lesotho Project

Historically, children's ministries have a track record of shaping young lives, not only in Lesotho, but also in the UK. By immersing themselves in an entirely different culture and witnessing extreme poverty firsthand, returning UK Year 10 students often experience life-changing shifts in perspective.
As the year progressed, the revival of the Lesotho Project, originally involving two Church of England Academies, gradually came to an unavoidable standstill following a governance transition and subsequent takeover by a different Trust.

The first class-to-class link was arranged between primary schools in Lesotho and in Darlington.

Lesotho Link's building programme, site facilities and maintenance

The LINK Centre generates most of its revenue through its accommodation, catering, outdoor activities, and camping and conference rentals, including its Kopanong meeting space. Its diverse range of clients and visitors comprise government agencies, not-for-profits, schools, businesses, religious organisations (including the Diocese), families and individuals.

A maintenance programme to improve working conditions, site facilities, customer experience and marketing is ongoing. New in 2025: additional children's play apparatus; aluminium windows & doors fitted and carpet tiles laid in the Mary Atwell, computer and dining halls; replacement tables & chairs in the dining hall; the picnic site toilet block was completed and a lakeside safety wall constructed.

<u>Developing and strengthening the partnership</u>

The Lesotho Durham Link actively explores new strategies to deepen and sustain its long-established relationship. Described as a "gift which needs to be shared," the partnership depends on the active participation of schools and their respective dioceses to build a lasting impact. By remaining responsive to cultural differences and shifting community dynamics, the initiative is dedicated to supporting, educating, and equipping vulnerable children and young people for a brighter future.

To ensure long-term sustainability, the partnership focuses on three core strategic areas: resource alignment to match overarching goals, balanced development to make the organisation self-sufficient, and spiritual solidarity to foster deep fellowship, sustain church communities in both dioceses, and demonstrate the love of Jesus through unified teamwork.

Financial Review

The trustees apply practical and straightforward accounting policies appropriate to the scale of the trust's activities. The end of year financial statements give a true and fair view of the Charity's income and expenditure for that year. Trustees' financial decisions and estimates are made carefully to ensure the accounts remain clear, transparent and sensible, and disclose, with reasonable accuracy, the Charity's financial position at any one time.
The trustees are also responsible for taking appropriate steps to prevent and detect fraud and other financial irregularities.

The charity's financial position, reserves held and trustee remuneration and expenses

Total bank balance at 31/12/2025 = £39,657

Current reserves total £24,375, split into a **£10,000 agreed reserve** (covering EO salary, travel and expenses plus admin. & unexpected costs) and **£14,375** set aside for the zip wire and other projects.

A total of £661.74 was reimbursed to 3 trustees for out-of-pocket expenses incurred directly on behalf of the charity. These payments were strictly for operational costs, which included securing the charity's digital presence via website hosting services for both the 2024 and 2025 fiscal years.
All claims were fully settled, leaving no outstanding reimbursement balances or liabilities owed to any trustee.
The charity's trustees give their time freely and receive no remuneration or other financial benefits for their services, ensuring the board remains fully focused on advancing the charity's mission.

Principal sources of funding

The charity continues to rely on an annual £25,000 grant from the Durham Diocese; this core funding is augmented by personal donations, church offerings, legacies and Trusts.
Trustees deliver presentations and host one-off social events which often bring in extra income.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Durham Link was set up as a Trust and is governed by a Deed of Declaration of Trust, Supplemental Deed (1999) and additional Supplemental Deeds, which took effect from 22/7/2025

The Board of Trustees decides on development, strategy, policy and finance; responsibility for implementation is shared. The Board meets quarterly throughout the year; various subcommittees meet as required. Questions arising at a meeting are decided by a majority of votes; if necessary, the Chair has a second or casting vote. The appointment and re-appointment of trustees must be ratified at an in-person meeting by resolution of the continuing trustees. In 2025, the charity updated its governing document to introduce a three-year term of trusteeship and formally authorise virtual trustee meetings. Trustees can be re-elected for a consecutive term.
New trustees/members often have knowledge of, or a connection with, Lesotho, and are chosen to fill a specific role or skills gap. The Anglican Christian faith is preferred but not a requirement.

The Executive Officer is appointed by the trustees on a self-employed contract for 5 weeks per year, and is precluded from board membership. His key responsibilities are to guide & support operations, projects and activities in Lesotho, offer strategic advice as required and mentor the Lesotho Link EO.

Both the Durham Link and the Lesotho Link operate independently of their respective Dioceses.
The EOs share updates via monthly remote meetings and provide the trustees with written reports (fund status, projects and news updates) to help inform their decisions.

Serving Trustees: Nick Barker (Vice Chair), Elisabeth Bryant (Chair), Susan Egglestone (Treasurer), Jason Exley, Ruth Hicks, Alex Nelson, Andrea Pritchard (Secretary), Rick Simpson

Executive Officer: Lee Musson (self-employed consultant; reports to the Chair of Trustees)

Independent Examiner: Charlie Forster (appointed January 2023)

Registered address: Cuthbert House, Stonebridge, Durham DH1 3RY

Background information

Also known as the 'Kingdom in the Sky', Lesotho is a small, mountainous landlocked country entirely surrounded by South Africa - it boasts the world's highest lowest point at 1,400m above sea level.
It is a constitutional monarchy with a population of roughly 2.3 million; the majority live in rural areas. Due to the altitude, the country is largely covered in grasses, resulting in an over-reliance on subsistence agriculture and livestock to meet basic needs.
There are 10 administrative districts and 4 geographical/ecological zones; mountains (75%), lowlands, foothills and the Senqu River Valley. National and official languages include Sesotho, English and Xhosa.

Lesotho's political landscape has long-been quite fractious, chiefly due to economic hardships.
Economic growth remains slow and heavily dependent on the export of water to South Africa and revenue from migrant workers. Once-relied-upon diamond exports now face major challenges - collapsed global prices and increased competition from lab-grown alternatives.

Little has changed over recent years - unsustainable livestock overgrazing and increasingly volatile, erratic weather patterns have severely depleted and transformed the country's natural grasslands.
These environmental strains trigger devastating soil erosion and frequent crop failures, resulting in chronic food insecurity. Deeply entrenched widespread poverty is compounded by very high unemployment rates and rising food prices. Consequently, many families struggle with basic needs, directly impacting school attendance; whilst primary education is heavily subsidized, secondary school requires fees, creating a barrier for disadvantaged youth.

The country continues to battle elevated rates of Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS, rigid gender inequalities, inherent social stigmas and acute shortages of healthcare professionals. Mountainous terrain and geographical barriers severely restrict rural communities' access to essential medical services, reducing life expectancy and hindering national economic growth.

These crises place the heaviest burden on children from the lowest-income households, who remain disproportionately vulnerable to severe malnutrition, high under-five mortality rates, the trauma of orphanhood and direct exposure to HIV/AIDS (currently affecting an estimated 81,000 children under 18) and High School-dropout rates, which permanently restrict their future socioeconomic mobility.

Lesotho Link's 3-year Strategic Plan 2022-25 (future strategy planning is ongoing)
10 'Key Priority Areas'

1. Re-establishment/Development of Children and Youth Department (particularly in Mohatlane)
2. Development of the LINK Centre for Christian Ministry & Leadership Training
3. Good Governance
4. Financial Sustainability & Stewardship
5. Staff Development & Performance (training, support and motivation)
6. Improvement of Infrastructure, Facilities and Equipment (review and renew equipment)
7. Improved Environment (general maintenance)
8. Development of the Recreational Department (adventure & team building activities)
9. Public Relations within the Diocese, with like-minded NGOs and the Durham Link
10. Quality Services and Customer Care

The LINK Centre

The LINK Centre boasts a beautiful lakeside setting on the edge of Makaliqa Dam reservoir in Maseru. It comprises an administration block, conference hall (renamed Mary Atwell hall), resource centre, kitchen and indoor dining area, kopanong (open wooden structure with external verandah and drop-down canvas side panels - ideal for conferences, workshops, family celebrations, wedding receptions etc.); shower block, lakeside toilet block and boathouse.

On-site accommodation consists of the Backpacker's Lodge (low-cost en suite rooms, 6 beds per room), Durham House (self-contained building, sleeps 16) and Rondavel (traditionally built roundhouse, self-contained, sleeps 4)

Outdoor activities include paddlesports (canoeing, kayaking and paddle boarding on Lake Maqalika) bouldering/climbing wall, abseiling, archery, obstacle courses (low ropes etc.), trampolining, swings, bouncy castle and crate stack

A campsite, general recreational and picnic areas all lie within the LINK Centre's grounds.

Staff aim to protect local wildlife and biodiversity, and ensure all maintenance and operational activities have a minimal impact on the environment. At a recent environmental sustainability review involving the Durham Link EO, the Lesotho Link paid particular attention to the use of solar PV, recycling (aluminium) and tackling single use plastic.

The Mohatlane Community Education Centre (MCEC)
The MCEC is Lesotho Link's second site serving village communities in Berea District. The complex comprises a vocational school (60 places); church; primary school (run by the local authority); a nurse/midwife-led clinic (offering HIV counselling, mother & baby services and basic medical healthcare). Various agricultural projects have also been established, both by the Link and by locals.

Lesotho Link Staff
The Link currently employs c. 9 full-time staff; trainees/apprentices and casual staff are hired as required to assist the Finance, HR, Catering and other departments. The CHH Coordinator divides her time between Mohatlane and the LINK Centre and security men are employed at both sites.

The Durham-Lesotho Link remembers Mme Mathabiso, a long-serving and loyal member of the LINK's catering team, well-renowned for her steamed bread, who sadly passed away in July.

A prayer for our work together for children, for the churches both in Lesotho and Durham and for insights on how to build our partnership and fellowship in the love of Jesus our Lord:

''Thank you dear Lord for the vision and energy that inspired and nurtured the Lesotho Durham Link and for all those who have given their prayer, their time and their gifts to the work day by day. Guide our hands and our hearts to be a team together to bring Your kingdom nearer and reveal Your love at work.''
Lesotho Link EO, Joseph Morenammele

*Child-Headed Households (CHH) - children living on their own with no adult carer, many are double orphaned by HIV/AIDS.

** Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) - use light aircraft to connect isolated mountain communities with critical medical care, relief and ministry services

The trustees would like to extend their sincere gratitude to the Durham Diocese and to supporting churches, trusts, NGOs and individuals whose generous financial contributions have been invaluable in securing the ongoing development of the partnership and continuation of the Link's work.

Andrea Pritchard 19th October 2026

DURHAM - LESOTHO DIOCESAN LINK Charity Number : 702809
Receipts and Payments Account for the Year ended 31st December 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds		2025	2024
Receipts					
Donations					
Churches UK	3,105.55	-		3,105.55	2,601.85
Individuals	1,972.99	2,200.00		4,172.99	4,265.20
St James USA		1,741.35		1,741.35	1,109.15
Palmer Endcliffe Trust		1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00
CIS Townswomen's Guild					40.00
Gateshead MU	30.00			30.00	
Basotho Education Trust	-	28,031.00		28,031.00	
Gift Aid	237.50	450.00		687.50	682.50
Diocese of Durham	25,000.00			25,000.00	25,000.00
Legacy /Funeral donations	8,683.15	350.00		9,033.15	3,485.50
Leavers service		-			261.10
Confirmation services	145.67			145.67	
Bank Interest	20.40			20.40	15.21
CAFGold interest		473.06		473.06	291.09
Total Receipts	**39,195.26**	**34,745.41**		**73,940.67**	**39,251.60**
Payments					
Transfers to Lesotho	18,689.00	2,650.00			
Christian Education	-	1,500.00			
Church of the Resurrection	-	400.00			
St James USA	-	1,147.00			
Broadley legacy	370.00	190.00			
Basotho Education Trust		28,031.00			
Total transferred				**52,977.00**	25,654.00
Travel to and from Lesotho	2,522.17	-	£	2,522.17	3,460.75
Exec. Officers' Fees	4,920.00	-		4,920.00	4,599.00
Administration	1,846.06	-		1,846.06	365.97
Bank Charges	172.00	-		172.00	166.00
Total Payments	**28,519.23**	**33,918.00**		**62,437.23**	**34,245.72**
Surplus / Loss	10,676.03	827.41		11,503.44	5,005.88

DURHAM - LESOTHO DIOCESAN LINK Charity Number : 702809
Receipts and Payments Account for the Year ended 31st December 2025

Statement of Assets

Bank Balances at 31st December 2025

CAFCash Account	15,282.17
CAF Gold Account	24,375.13
Total Bank Balances	**39,657.30**

Fund Balances at 31st December 2025

Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
37,983.51	1,673.79	**39,657.30**

Notes

The CAF Gold account holds our unrestricted £10000 reserve. Further donations, including £8374.75 from the Berkeley Stuart Trust, have been transferred to the CAF Gold account to maximise interest. The balance after the reserve is taken into account and interest from that account will be used for specific projects, to be decided by trustees.

Gift aid note

Gift aid is still to be claimed on donations from December 2025. Gift Aid from donations in memory of John Broadley of £85 is still to be transferred to Lesotho.

Signed

Trustee

Hon Examiner

Date 9/6/26

Date 12/3/26

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name
Durham – Lesotho Diocesan Link

On accounts for the year ended

31 December 2025

Charity no (if any)

702809

Set out on pages

1 and 2

(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 trustees of the Trust, 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 the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

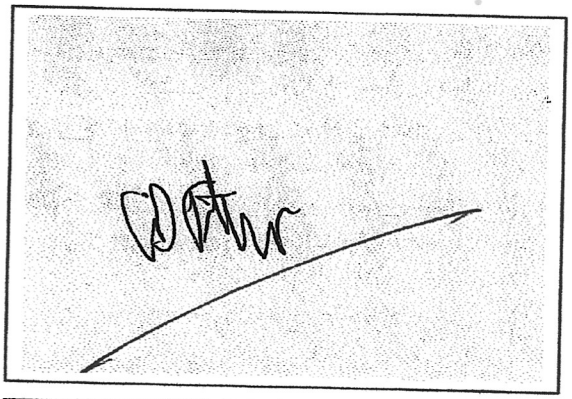
Independent examiner's statement

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:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:



Date: 13/03/2026

Name: Charles Dixon Forster

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

Address:	10 Swinhope
	Washington
	Tyne & Wear NE38 9HR

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight 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.