Charity registration number 106814 (Northern Ireland)

Company registration number NI608913

MURLOUGH HOUSE

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025



MURLOUGH HOUSE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr K Forbes Mr D G Preston Mr J P Moxen Mr W Watson
Charity number (Northern Ireland)	106814
Company number	NI608913
Independent examiner	Kieran Magill Xeinadin NI Ltd 2 Church Street Ballygawley Co Tyrone Northern Ireland BT70 2HB

MURLOUGH HOUSE

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MURLOUGH HOUSE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

2025 has been another unprecedented year. We had hoped that things might have started to pick up again and the fear created by the so called pandemic would have worn off and that the group size might have picked up again, but this was not the case. Groups have remained small but there has been a significant increase in the blessed experienced by those who did come, perhaps because small groups means more participation and people feeling more free to share at a deeper level.

While bookings were well up the corollary of that was the rate of cancellation, which was previously unheard of, and reached 18 significant cancellations during the year. This equated to a direct loss of income of over £20k, which was the difference between profit and loss.

The ongoing inflationary pressure that continues to push prices up has increased the financial pressure on the ministry, but once again the Lord has been gracious to us and His people have been very generous in the gifts they have given to support the work here. This is also seen in people thinking twice about coming away because disposable income is reduced and times are tight for many people. Murlough is viewed as a luxury for some and therefore deemed unaffordable to many. The impact of this has been seen as a continued decline in numbers attending as groups, with weekend numbers being hit the hardest.

Weekend group number continues to be far below historical levels and the majority are now only staying for one night rather than two. This has a major impact on how the house is run since the basic workload is the same for one night as it is for two, this is causing a financial stress on the business model. The number of Alpha Groups holding their away days here has again increased.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "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)".

Objectives and activities

Our primary objective is the advancement of religion, specifically the Christian Faith, and as such are aims are:

- An improved sense of wellbeing and the spiritual, moral and intellectual development for those attending the organised activities at Murlough House, as they enjoy fellowship with others and receive teaching from the Bible.

- The promotion of Christian values for the benefit of individuals, with those using the various facilities available at Murlough House encouraged to adopt a moral framework where they are good citizens.

- Murlough House as a charity offers facilities for private retreat, respite, group retreat, and conference facilities to church and para-church groups and individuals in sympathy with our Christian ethos.

Staffing

This year has seen a couple of changes in the staff team with one member moving on into full-time work in their preferred area and another joining the team part time. While our team remains very small, it is now adequate for the numbers attending, however if we had more staff we could fill in gaps in the diary, where we are presently unable to take people because we cannot expect staff to work 7 days a week. The team is very settled and everyone is here for ministry and not just a job. Our focus remains to treat everyone who comes through the door as if we were serving King Jesus, our aim in everything is to honour Him. We are still struggling with the fact that, for any one of us to have a break, we all need to stop, as the house cannot run, even with one less person. In caring for others we also need to care for the team members, if we are to keep going. Our biggest problem is still an inability to find anyone interested in cleaning as a job.

Public benefit

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Volunteers

We've had no new volunteers join us during this year, but the two who work in the garden have remained remarkably faithful, and have been of great help.

Achievements and performance

Bookings

Bookings remain strong, with the majority of groups booking the same slot for next year and some wanting to book several years ahead. The problem remains that the vast majority want the same dates. July and August are sparse because many people are on vacation and December and January are very slow as everyone's mind is on Christmas in December and they are then broke in January. For every booking we take we have to turn away more than twice the number. This we find difficult at a personal level, as we hate turning people away, and some people take it personally and think we are choosing to not accept them, which is totally unfounded.

Another notable change has been a reduction in individuals coming on private retreat. This we believe is due to the cost, even though we make it known that, for those who need to come, finance should never be a barrier. Often those in the greatest need are the least likely to request help.

We had to increase our prices following the last board meeting, on their advice. This was for two reasons. Firstly we were not covering our costs, and secondly we were well below the cost of other establishments offering similar services. On the back of this increase we then looked for excuses to make discounts to help people, such as those in ministry, seniors and a couples discount where the second person came at half price.

Financial review

We are very grateful to the Lord for his provision, such that our finances remain healthy once again this year, but only due to several generous donations from Christian Trusts and several corporate supporters. The house is still not self-sufficient, primarily due to the reduced numbers attending and increased costs.

Another, less significant, reason is because those who most need to come to the house are normally those who are least able to pay, and therefore we have used the donations, kindly given, to subsidise both individuals and some members of groups. With total income this year of £195k and expenditure of £169k the business is solvent having a trading profit of circa £25k. Since our goal, as a charity, is to simply meet our costs this represents a success. However, the reality is very different, as without the external support we would have lost £35k.

Since gifts cannot be relied upon, we need to pay special attention to two main areas going forward. The first is the need to increase our income and secondly reducing costs. Earnings are limited by group size, as we have very few 'open days', i.e. days when the house is unoccupied. Therefore, we need to get the message out to a much wider audience and draw in more personal retreat clients when groups are in as well. This aspect has seen a decline over the last year, mainly because individuals who come are often in a distressed state and in need of quiet and solitude. This is not conducive to having groups in the house at the same time. While the groups are not doing anything untoward, the individuals concerned can often feel that they are being ostracised or ignored, simply because the groups are getting on with their work.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:
Mr K Forbes
Mr D G Preston
Mr J P Moxen
Mr W Watson

Conclusions

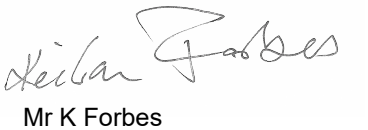
Once again the Lord has wonderfully provided for all the needs of the house through so many people. It has been another great year of blessing for those who have come, although we are acutely aware that a number of individuals are not coming because they do not wish to be in the house when groups are present. Even though we have set aside the servants quarters for those in real need of help, this has not been able to really compensate.

Continuing increases in costs make keeping the house running a challenge, but we keep looking up and we are still here. Numbers are up in terms of total occupancy but still need to increase if the house is to become self sustaining. Cancellations have been a major difficulty and represents a considerable loss over the year. A move to one night weekends has also reduced income significantly, as it is all the work for half the income.

Staff recruitment is still a huge issue, however we have got through another year, hand to mouth. We already know that we are going to lose another part time staff member next year, as they have been only filling in until they get a full time post in their field of expertise.

Economically the house only survives on the generosity of others, which is not a sustainable position long term. Due to the work needing done here, I have retired from my day job to enable me to focus on the future of the house and its ministry

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Mr K Forbes
Trustee

16 July 2026

MURLOUGH HOUSE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF MURLOUGH HOUSE

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2025, which are set out on pages 5 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees (and also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and are eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity financial statements as required under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe that:

- 1. Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- 2. The financial statements do not accord with those accounting records; or
- 3. The financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102); or
- 4. There is further information needed for a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and I have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Kieran Magill

Kieran Magill
Xeinadin NI Ltd
2 Church Street
Ballygawley
Co Tyrone
BT70 2HB
Northern Ireland
16 July 2026

MURLOUGH HOUSE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	**3**	59,383	59,896
Charitable activities	**4**	132,316	107,682
Other trading activities	**5**	3,476	6,868
Investments	**6**	-	40
Total income		195,175	174,486
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	**7**	19,960	17,137
Charitable activities	**8**	149,900	147,107
Total expenditure		169,860	164,244
Net income and movement in funds		25,315	10,242
Reconciliation of funds:			
Fund balances at 1 October 2024		195,239	184,997
Fund balances at 30 September 2025		220,554	195,239

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

MURLOUGH HOUSE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**14**		117,268		98,133
Current assets					
Debtors	**15**	18,710		2,889	
Cash at bank and in hand		93,656		98,650	
		112,366		101,539	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**16**	(9,080)		(4,433)	
Net current assets			103,286		97,106
Total assets less current liabilities			220,554		195,239
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds	**18**		220,554		195,239
			220,554		195,239

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 30 September 2025.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 16 July 2026

Mr K Forbes
Trustee

Company registration number NI608913 (Northern Ireland)

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Murlough House is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is .

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "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)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a statement of cash flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, [modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value]. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold improvements	1% Straight Line
Plant and equipment	33% Reducing Balance
Fixtures and fittings	20% Reducing Balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Donations and gifts	52,197	59,896
Grants	7,186	-
	59,383	59,896

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Retreats	131,496	104,816
Conferences	820	2,866
	132,316	107,682

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Coffee shop income	976	2,798
Other income	2,500	4,070
Other trading activities	3,476	6,868

6 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Interest receivable	-	40

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Fundraising and publicity		
Consumables and provisions	19,960	17,137

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Direct costs		
Donations	15,607	23,881
Share of support and governance costs (see note 9)		
Support	129,921	114,822
Governance	4,372	8,404
	149,900	147,107
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	149,900	147,107

9 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs	60,682	54,836
Depreciation	9,282	9,445
	2,750	-
Insurance	13,148	8,633
Light and heat	15,541	14,803
Phone, internet & website	2,875	4,033
Postage, stationery & office	364	555
Coach hire	7,425	6,690
Sundries	562	248
Repairs and maintenance	17,023	14,795
Bank charges	269	784
Governance costs	4,372	8,404
	134,293	123,226
Analysed between:		
Unrestricted funds	134,293	123,226

10 Net movement in funds

	2025	2024
	£	£
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements	-	-
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	9,282	9,445

11 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

12 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
	6	7

Employment costs	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	59,588	54,102
Other pension costs	1,094	734
	60,682	54,836

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

13 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 October 2024	90,218	66,777	36,998	193,993
Additions	26,014	1,599	803	28,416
At 30 September 2025	116,232	68,376	37,801	222,409
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 October 2024	15,337	55,521	25,001	95,859
Depreciation charged in the year	1,162	5,844	2,276	9,282
At 30 September 2025	16,499	61,365	27,277	105,141
Carrying amount				
At 30 September 2025	99,733	7,011	10,524	117,268
At 30 September 2024	74,881	11,255	11,997	98,133

15 Debtors

	2025	2024
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Trade debtors	18,710	2,889

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	2,469	1,147
Trade creditors	3,234	-
Accruals and deferred income	3,377	3,286
	9,080	4,433

17 Retirement benefit schemes

	2025	2024
Defined contribution schemes	£	£
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	1,094	734

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

18 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 October 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 30 September 2025
	£	£	£	£
General funds	195,239	195,175	(169,860)	220,554

Previous year:	At 1 October 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 30 September 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	184,997	174,486	(164,244)	195,239

19 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).