

Lossiemouth
Church of Scotland



RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS 2025

Congregation No: 311919

Charity no: SC000880

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Lossiemouth Church of Scotland

Charity Registration Number: SC000880

Congregation Reference No: 311919

Contact Address: Mr NJ Smith
Lynhurst
James Street
Lossiemouth
Moray
IV31 6BY

Trustees

Kirk Session

Rev G McKee	Retired 2025
Mrs S McSheffrey	
Mr NJ Smith	
Mr C Stewart	
Mr AD Wares	Retired 2025
Mrs J Wares	Retired 2025
Mr S Anderson	
Mrs R Anderson	
Mrs J Flett	Retired 2025
Mr P Brash	
Mr W Smith	
Mrs K Robertson	
Mr N Simpson	
Mrs J Stewart	
Mrs W Knowles	
Mr E Petrie	Retired 2025
Mrs I Kielhorn	
Mrs L Main	

Principal Office-bearers

Minister:

Session Clerk

Mrs S McSheffrey

Church Treasurer:

Mr N J Smith

Independent Examiner

Mr Benjamin Stewart

17 Kinnedar Street

Lossiemouth

IV31 6AS

Bankers

Bank of Scotland

90 High Street

Elgin

Moray

IV30 1BJ

Trustees' Annual Report

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Church is administered in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Constitution.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Members of the Kirk Session are the charity trustees. The Kirk Session members are the elders of the church and are chosen from those members of the church who are considered to have the appropriate gifts and skills. The minister, who is a member of the Kirk Session, is elected by the congregation and inducted by Presbytery. Until 31 December 2023, the congregation also had a Congregational Board, whose members were also charity trustees. On unification, the Unitary Constitution was adopted, and as a result the Congregational Board fell into abeyance, and the members of the board at that time no longer remained as trustees.

Organisational Structure

The Kirk Session which meets six times a year is responsible for spiritual affairs within the church. Meetings continued regularly in 2025. From 1 January 2024 with the union of St James' Church and St Gerardine's High Church in Lossiemouth, the Unitary Constitution was adopted, which meant that the Congregational Board fell into abeyance and the unified church has been run by the Kirk Session and designated committees. The designated committees set up in the united church covered 5 areas; Worship, Nurture, Outreach, Finance and Property and lastly Communication and Social.

Objectives and Activities

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in polity. It exists to glorify God and to work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world. As a national Church, it acknowledges a distinctive call and duty to bring the ordinances of religion to the people in every parish of Scotland through a territorial ministry. It co-operates with other Churches in various ecumenical bodies in Scotland and beyond. Lossiemouth Church of Scotland offers a single diet of Sunday worship at 10.30am. During the 10.30am service, the children of the church attend the weekly Sunday School. The Guild meets on alternate Mondays from September through to March. The Church has a Praise Group who lead Praise Concerts usually twice in the year. Members of the church also run a Bowls group in the Church Hall on Friday afternoons, welcoming both members of the church and visitors. During 2021 and 2022 a new Presbytery plan was developed with the outcome in Lossiemouth being that the two congregations of St James' and St Gerardine's High united using the buildings of St James'. This part of the plan came into fruition on 1 January 2024, and the united church is known as Lossiemouth Church of Scotland.

Trustees' Annual Report (cont)

Year ended 31 December 2025

Achievements and Performance

This was the second year of the united Church, and the two old congregations have continued to unite together with great purpose and desire to make the union a success. The numbers attending weekly service in the old St James' building are 50% higher than before the union and members of both the old congregations gladly fulfill the roles and tasks of the united church. This is very encouraging for the future development. There are plans to develop the church site, however these need to be held back until the St Gerardine's building is sold to release funds for any development. All the church groups flourished during the year, and the church hall is used by groups every day of the week, hence bringing the church itself more into the community. The Lossie Singers who are associated with the church performed 2 concerts in the church during the year with many of the audience new to the church. Despite a large financial loss this year, due to the requirements of 121 George Street, the church decided that it was now appropriate to unite with the adjoining parish of Duffus, Spynie and Hopeman and thus complete the requirements for this parish of the Presbytery plan. The old St Gerardine's building was offered for sale and an offer accepted, and it is expected that missives will be concluded early in 2026. Finally with the retirement of our Minister, Rev Geoff McKee in September 2025, we await premission from Presbytery to call a minister for the new united charge.

Financial Review

The principle source of the church income is the weekly congregation offering which remained stable over last year. However due to the way that 121 George Street calculate its requirements (basically based on income 2 years previously), the requirements from 121 George Street rose by 20% (approximately £8,500). There were one-off factors which caused this and requirements for 2026 will reduce. Other expenditure remained constant, and we did not have to spend nearly as much on fabric works this year. However the large requirements from 121 meant that we had to transfer £8,000 from the fabric fund to the general fund in order to be able to continue to pay our suppliers. In total, the unrestricted funds showed a deficit of £5,247 in 2025 (2024 deficit of £7,602) whilst the restricted funds had a 2025 deficit of £1,322 (2024 surplus £267). In total the church showed a 2025 deficit of £6,569 (2024 deficit £7,335). With the advent of the union it is hoped that the deficit can be reduced further this year.

Reserves Policy

It has been the Trustees' policy to hold reserves of approximately four months expenditure including designated funds. These were mostly held in the JA Scott Fund, which though not restricted, had a twofold purpose. Firstly some of these funds may be transferred to the General Fund when required in the early part of the year when the larger portion of the Church's expenditure is made, and secondly, the interest from this account can be transferred to the Church's fabric fund for repair, maintenance and development of the Church properties. At the year end the Church held unrestricted cash funds of £40,905. Of this amount £16,677 is held in the Fabric Fund, which allows the Church a degree of comfort should any unforeseen repairs be required, but also allows us to improve and enhance the buildings of the Church for all its users.

The Church also held £517 of restricted funds which have been provided for the purposes specified in Note 2.

Trustees' Annual Report (cont)
Year ended 31 December 2025

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The members of the Kirk Session must prepare financial statements which give sufficient detail to enable an appreciation of the transactions of the Church during the financial year. The members of the Kirk Session are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which, on request, must reflect the financial position of the Church at that time. This must be done to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and the Regulations Anent Congregational Finance approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 2007. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and must take reasonable steps for the prevention and/or detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf,



S McSheffrey
Session Clerk

Date: 10-Feb-26

St James Church of Scotland, Lossiemouth

SC 000880

Report of the Independent Examiner

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Lossiemouth Church of Scotland

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set on pages 7 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention.

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44 (1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Ben Stewart

Benjamin Stewart
17 Kinnedar Street
Lossiemouth
IV31 6AS

Date March 12 2026

Lossiemouth Church of Scotland
Receipts and Payments Account
Year ended 31 December 2025

		Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Endowment Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<u>Receipts</u>	Note					
Donations	3	54,936	647	0	55,583	63,243
Legacies		0	0	0	0	0
Activities for Generating Funds		692	0	0	692	1,455
Bank & Deposit interest		451	2	0	453	442
Investment income		0	0	0	0	0
		<u>56,079</u>	<u>649</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>56,728</u>	<u>65,140</u>
Rental of premises		11,945	0	0	11,945	11,774
Sale of assets		0	0	0	0	0
Sale of investments		0	0	0	0	0
Grants		0	0	0	0	0
Receipts from General Trustees		0	0	0	0	0
Other Receipts		4,849	0	0	4,849	3,355
<u>Total Receipts</u>		<u><u>72,873</u></u>	<u><u>649</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>73,522</u></u>	<u><u>80,269</u></u>
<u>Payments</u>	4					
Costs of generating funds		444	0	0	444	450
Charitable activities		78,376	1,271	0	79,647	87,154
Governance costs		0	0	0	0	0
<u>Total Payments</u>		<u><u>78,820</u></u>	<u><u>1,271</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>80,091</u></u>	<u><u>87,604</u></u>
Surplus/(Deficit) of Receipts over Payments for the year before transfers		(5,947)	(622)	0	(6,569)	(7,335)
Transfers		700	(700)	0	0	0
Surplus/(Deficit) of Receipts over Payments for the year		<u><u>(5,247)</u></u>	<u><u>(1,322)</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>(6,569)</u></u>	<u><u>(7,335)</u></u>

Lossiemouth Church of Scotland
Statement of Balances
At 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment		
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	2025	2025	2025	2025	2024
Note	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Bank & Deposit Balances</u>					
Bank & deposit balances brought forward	46,152	1,839	0	47,991	55,326
<u>Movement in year:</u>					
Surplus/(Deficit) of Receipts over Payments for the year	(5247)	(1,322)	0	(6569)	(7,335)
Bank & deposit balances carried forward	<u>40,905</u>	<u>517</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>41,422</u>	<u>47,991</u>
<u>Investments at market value</u>	<u>3,564</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,564</u>	<u>3353</u>
<u>Assets</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

The accounts were approved by the Kirk Session on 10 February 2026

For and on behalf of the Kirk Session

S. McShaffrey
Ned James Gill

Session Clerk

Treasurer

St James' Church of Scotland, Lossiemouth

Statement of Balances

Notes to the Accounts

1. Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

Mrs Rosemary Anderson, a member of the Kirk session, was paid as deputy organist £900 (2024: £300). Mrs Katherine Robertson, a member of the Kirk Session was paid as organist £420 (2024: £2,500).

No other trustee or a person related to a trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

2. Movements in Funds

	At 1 Jan 2025 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	At 31 Dec 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated Fabric Fund	16,686	9,760	(1,769)	(8,000)	16,677
Designated Cash Flow (JA Scott) Fund	18,646	451			19,097
Designated Window (Sutherland) Fund	460				460
Designated Bible (Rev Cordiner) Fund	537				537
General Fund	9,823	62,662	(77,051)	8,700	4,134
	<u>46,152</u>	<u>72,873</u>	<u>(78,820)</u>	<u>700</u>	<u>40,905</u>
Restricted funds					
Guild	1,481	647	(1,221)	(700)	207
Good News Club	169	2	(50)		121
Midweek Fellowship	189				189
	<u>1,839</u>	<u>649</u>	<u>(1,271)</u>	<u>(700)</u>	<u>517</u>
Endowment funds					
	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total funds	<u>47,991</u>	<u>73,522</u>	<u>(80,091)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>41,422</u>

Purposes of Designated Funds

Fabric Fund: The Trustees have set aside funds for the maintenance of the Church property

CashFlow (JA Scott) Fund: The Trustees have set aside reserve funds for cash flow and Providing income to the Fabric fund.

Window (Sutherland) Fund: The Trustees have set aside funds for any repairs to the Stained Glass windows

Bible (Rev Cordiner) Fund: The Trustees have set aside funds for the purchase of bibles.

Purposes of Restricted Funds

Guild Fund: This fund is to support the activities of the Guild

Good News Club Fund: This supports activities of the Good News Club (Sunday School)

Midweek Fellowship: Monies collected in this fund are distributed to the church and other charities.

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Endowment Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
3. Analysis of Donations					
WFO Scheme (non Gift Aid)	9,987	0	0	9,987	8,071
Gift Aid Donations	23,773	0	0	23,773	27,836
Gift Days	800	0	0	800	7,273
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid Donations	10,136	0	0	10,136	6,959
Ordinary Offerings (Open Plate)	10,240	0	0	10,240	8,473
Other Offerings, Donations etc	0	647	0	647	4,631
	<u>54,936</u>	<u>647</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>55,583</u>	<u>63,243</u>

4. Analysis of Payments

Costs of generating funds

Investment Managers' fees	0	0	0	0	0
Offering envelopes	444	0	0	444	450
	<u>444</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>444</u>	<u>450</u>

Charitable activities

Giving to Grow allocation	52,885	0	0	52,885	44,338
Presbytery dues	2,044	0	0	2,044	0
Minister's expenses	1,118	0	0	1,118	1,548
Pulpit supply	224	0	0	224	0
Other staffing costs	3,723	0	0	3,723	4,870
Fabric repairs & maintenance	1,769	0	0	1,769	11,893
Council Tax	1,441	0	0	1,441	2,293
Heat and light	6,523	0	0	6,523	8,871
Insurance	6,090	0	0	6,090	5,600
Payment of outstanding accounts*	0	0	0	0	2,488
Printing, stationery and postage	72	0	0	72	226
Other expenses	2,487	1,271	0	3,758	5,027
	<u>78,376</u>	<u>1,271</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>79,647</u>	<u>87,154</u>

*Following closure of St Gerardine's High Church on 31 December 2023, the united congregation paid across funds to the St Gerardine's High Church bank accounts, sufficient so that the local trades people could be paid. Non local accounts were settled by the Church of Scotland head office. Due to this, there were no funds available from St Gerardine's High Church to pass on to the united Church.

Governance costs

Independent examiner's fees	0	0	0	0	0
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Other payments

Purchase of assets	0	0	0	0	0
Purchase of investments	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

5. Minister's Stipend

All Church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the costs of all ministers' stipends and employer's contributions for national insurance, pension and housing and loan fund. Ministers' stipends are paid in accordance with the national stipend scale, which is related to years of service. For the year under review the minimum stipend was £32,433 and the maximum stipend (after five years) £39,856.

	2025 £	2024 £
6. Collections for Third Parties		
Poppy Scotland	128	112
Scottish Bible Society	170	
Bear Necessities	170	
Tearfund/Compassion UK	50	50
Home for Good	50	50
Vine Trust		50
Lossiemouth Boys Brigade		50
	<u>568</u>	<u>312</u>

APPENDIX

FUNDS HELD ON BEHALF OF THE CONGREGATION BY THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GENERAL TRUSTEES

	2025 £	2024 £
<u>CAPITAL ACCOUNT</u>		
Credit Balances held at 31 December at cost	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Market Value of Balances at 31 December	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>REVENUE ACCOUNT</u>		
Credit Balance at 31 December	<u>-29.74</u>	<u>64.62</u>
<u>TEMPORARY ACCOUNT</u>		
Debit Balance at 31 December	<u>-18534.29</u>	<u>-7086.61</u>

Notes

1. *If any of the above lines do not apply to your congregation for both of the years being reported then they can be removed from the note.*
2. *The note only requires the year end figure for each year to be shown. Detailing the movements is not necessary but can be shown as additional disclosure if considered appropriate.*
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