

United Diocese of Moray, Ross and Caithness



Accounts

For the year ended 30th September 2025

Scottish Charity No 004655

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Legal & Administrative Information

Trustees: (Property trustees)	The Bishop The Dean The Chancellor The Registrar	Right Reverend Mark J Strange Very Reverend Alison Simpson Vacant Mr John Smart		
Diocesan Standing Committee: (Who are also trustees of the charity)	The Bishop The Dean The Chancellor The Registrar Diocesan Secretary Diocesan Treasurer Convenor of the Admin Board Convenor of Mission & Ministry Board Cathedral Provost Lay representatives Synod Clerk Protection officer	Right Reverend Mark J Strange Very Reverend Alison Simpson Vacant Mr John Smart Mr Iain Foyers Dr Denise McFarlane Mrs Louise Monaghan Reverend Canon Michael Last Reverend Julia Boothby Very Reverend Sarah Murray Jean Macdonald Deborah Munday Reverend Canon Michael Last Ley-Anne Haig-Forsyth	Demitted Appointed	01.09.25 01.09.25
Charity number:	SC004655			
Principal address:	The Diocesan Office St Mary in the Fields Keppoch Road Culloden IV2 7LL			
Independent Examiner	Hollie Mackay CA A9 Accountancy Limited Elm House Cradlehall Business Park Inverness IV2 5GH			
Principal bankers:	Royal Bank of Scotland 29 Harbour Road Inverness IV1 1NU			
Solicitor:	Thorntons Office Kintail House Beechwood Business Park Inverness IV2 3BW			

United Diocese of Moray, Ross & Caithness

Diocesan Standing Committee Report for the year ended 30th September 2025

The Diocesan Standing Committee present their report of the Diocese for the year ended 30th September 2025. The Legal & Administrative Information page as previously set out also forms part of the report.

Objectives & Activities

The Diocese is one of seven Dioceses of the Scottish Episcopal Church and is governed by Canon Law.

The objectives and main activities of the Diocese throughout the year have continued to be the provision of spiritual, clerical and financial support to the Charges throughout the Diocese, the administering of Provincial grants, mission work and the development of training.

In terms of its Constitution, as presented to and agreed by Diocesan Synod in March 2012, the Diocese has four Trustees, for the purpose of taking titles to properties within the Diocese, namely the Bishop, the Dean, the Chancellor and the Registrar. The office of Chancellor is currently vacant.

The Standing Committee acts as the Executive Committee of the Diocese between meetings of the Synod. It implements Synod decisions, supervises and receives reports from various Boards and prepares for Synod meetings. It has delegated the day-to-day administration to the Administration Board who prepare reports, cash flows, budgets and accounts for the Standing Committee's review and approval. Employment matters have also been delegated to the Administration Board.

There is also a Board for Mission and Ministry that oversees mission and ministry work across the Diocese.

The Diocese continued to work to meet its objectives with regard to the running of the Diocese.

The day to day management of the Diocese has been delegated to the Bishop.

The day to day financial management has been delegated to the Diocesan Treasurer.

Achievements and Performance

The Diocese of Moray Ross and Caithness, operating through its officers, both lay and clerical, exists to support its clergy and charges in furthering the mission of God's church to the communities of the Diocese. This is achieved by the visiting of all areas by the Bishop and by the work of the Mission and Ministry Board and Mission Priests and by the presence in local communities of members, young and old, in many spheres of activity.

Financial Review

Overview

The accounts show that there was a deficit of £40,403 with an underlying deficit of £70,192 before the increase in the market value of unit trust holding is adjusted for. An adjustment in the accounts allocating costs previously assigned to the Crask Inn Ltd (creditor) contributed significantly to the deficit.

There are a number of designated funds (note 14) and these operate as individual receipts and payments accounts for the funds set aside for particular purposes. The funds held in the Mission Provision account has decreased in value by £25,152. It is this fund, along with the Dunderdale Fund, that provides Charges with help with their stipendiary costs and supports mission in the Diocese. It is projected that there are sufficient funds to continue at the current rate of assistance for two years after which the reserve will be depleted. A one off Provincial grant of £47,842 was used to offset the expenditure of the Mission Provision account.

Representation continues to be made to the Provincial office for an increase in the annual mission grant, without which the Diocese will be unable to support stipends beyond 2027.

Principal Funding Sources

The Diocese is dependent for most of its income on quota contributions from charges and block grants received from the Province of the Scottish Episcopal Church. The Provincial Block grant has allowed for greater flexibility in how the Provincial funds are distributed with due regard of course for the spirit in which this grant is awarded.

United Diocese of Moray, Ross & Caithness

Diocesan Standing Committee Report for the year ended 30th September 2025

The quota contributions from charges are based on budgeted expenditure for the Diocese which is allocated among charges in proportion to their assessed income and their investments held.

Investment Policy

The investment powers of the Diocese are governed by Canon Law. The Diocese retains all its securities investments in the Scottish Episcopal Church Unit Trust Pool (UTP). The investment policy of the UTP, which accords with that of the Standing Committee, is to earn a return on the assets, over the long term, sufficient at least to maintain the real value of the distribution to unit holders. The UTP Investment committee recognises its responsibilities to optimise investment returns whilst striving to meet reasonable ethical investment expectations. It aims to invest in companies that will not only successfully develop their business financially in the interests of shareholders, but also demonstrate responsible employment and good corporate governance practices, that are conscientious regarding environmental performance and human rights, and that act with sensitivity to the communities in which they operate. The Admin Board reviews the investment choice from time to time.

Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Diocese is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. The principal risks are:

- Dependency on collecting quota from charges – this is managed through regular monitoring of receipts and follow-up with charges, review of charges' annual accounts, and regular pastoral contact with charges;
- Reliance on investment performance – all funds are placed with the Scottish Episcopal Church UTP which is considered to be a low-risk product with sound ethical basis.

Reserves Policy

The Diocesan Standing Committee considers that in the event of a significant drop in funding of activities not involving the administering of Provincial grants, the reserves represented by unrestricted funds not designated for specific use are adequate to maintain the Diocese's current activities for a reasonable period until replacement funding is obtained. In line with other charitable bodies of a similar size and level of financial commitment, the Administration Board seeks to maintain a minimum of 3 months' average annual expenditure in freely available reserves. It is the Board's policy to maintain that adequacy.

Note 17 sets out the various funds held by the Diocese. These funds are sufficient at present to meet the obligation of the Diocese.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Diocese is an unincorporated Scottish charity, subject to Canon Law of the Scottish Episcopal Church and Resolutions of its General Synod. The Diocese is governed by a Constitution dated 10th March 2012. The Diocese is registered with OSCR and its charity number is SC004655.

The principal governing body of the Diocese is Diocesan Synod, which meets once each year to receive reports, appoint committees and officials, and transact any other business referred to it. Its membership comprises the Bishop, all instituted, licensed or commissioned clergy in the Diocese, a lay representative elected by each Charge, diocesan officials and members of the laity licensed to a specific duty within the Diocese.

Between meetings of Synod the Standing Committee acts as Executive Committee of the Diocese. It is responsible for managing and safeguarding the assets of the Diocese. It implements Synod decisions, supervises diocesan committees and communications between them, and considers business raised by Charges within the Diocese. It meets at least five times each year.

For the purposes of charities law, the members of the Standing Committee are the Trustees of the Diocese. The Convenor of the Standing Committee is the Bishop, who is appointed by Canon 4 of the Code of Canons. The Dean, Chancellor, Registrar, Secretary, Treasurer, Synod Clerk, Cathedral Provost and Convenors of the

United Diocese of Moray, Ross & Caithness

Diocesan Standing Committee Report for the year ended 30th September 2025

Mission and Ministry and Administration Board committees are members ex officio. There are also two lay members of Synod elected at Diocesan Synod. The Standing Committee has power to fill ad interim vacancies occurring between meetings of Synod. A Diocesan Officer for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults is appointed by the Bishop and is a member of the Standing Committee.

The existing Trustees are familiar with the work of the Diocese and the regulatory framework of the Standing Committee having met to discuss the requirements and to ensure that training and advice is in place for new members. New members of the Standing Committee are given an induction and receive relevant support for their role on appointment.

The remuneration of key personnel is determined on the basis of scales compiled by General Synod of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

The Standing Committee has two pendant committees. The Mission and Ministry Committee's remit is to encourage, accompany and resource local congregations and individuals on their journey of faith. Its remit also includes training for ministry and ministerial development. The Administration Board is concerned with the administration and day-to-day finances of the Diocese. It is responsible for the preparation of budgets and cash flows, the setting of quota contributions from charges, and the preparation of the annual accounts.

The United Diocese of Moray Ross and Caithness is part of the Scottish Episcopal Church which has a Provincial base in Edinburgh. The Provincial structure does not affect the operating policy of the Diocese on a day to day basis. There is a General Synod of all seven Dioceses held annually and the Diocese is obliged to follow the decisions of General Synod.

Plans for the future

The Diocese will continue to develop and support the mission of the church within the Highlands, Moray and Aberdeenshire by working with the local charges.

This will include looking at how best to implementing the Scottish Episcopal Church policy related to Net Zero and supporting clergy in an ever more difficult financial climate.

Approved by the Trustees on
and signed on its behalf by:

..... Most Reverend M J Strange (Trustee)

United Diocese of Moray, Ross & Caithness

Diocesan Standing Committee Report for the year ended 30th September 2025

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

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

The law applicable to charities in Scotland 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 and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the provisions of the charity's constitution. They 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.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the United Diocese of Moray Ross and Caithness

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30 September 2025, which are set out on pages 6 to 17.

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 Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(a) to (c) of the 2006 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 report

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended). 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 seeks 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 view given by 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 Accounting Regulations (as amended)
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended)

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.

Hollie Mackay

Hollie Mackay CA
Independent examiner
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland

A9 Accountancy Limited
Elm House
Cradlehall Business Park
Inverness
IV2 5GH

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 30th September 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Designated Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>							
Donations & legacies	2	202,501	-	-	73,557	276,058	265,604
Charitable activities	3	159,470	5,000	17,850	22,094	204,415	143,669
Investment income	4	12,959	-	-	-	12,959	17,579
Total		<u>374,930</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>17,850</u>	<u>95,652</u>	<u>493,432</u>	<u>426,852</u>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>							
Charitable activities	5	424,170	2,604	17,850	150,532	595,156	493,631
Total		<u>424,170</u>	<u>2,604</u>	<u>17,850</u>	<u>150,532</u>	<u>595,156</u>	<u>493,631</u>
Net gains on investments		29,789	-	-	-	29,789	60,708
Net income		(19,451)	2,396	-	(54,881)	(71,936)	(6,071)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	31,533	31,533	-
		<u>(19,451)</u>	<u>2,396</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(23,348)</u>	<u>(40,403)</u>	<u>(6,071)</u>
<u>Other gains & losses</u>							
		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>(19,451)</u>	<u>2,396</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(23,348)</u>	<u>(40,403)</u>	<u>(6,071)</u>
<u>Reconciliation of funds</u>							
Total funds brought forward		1,256,833	2,951	-	246,172	1,505,956	1,347,028
Property introduced		-	-	-	-	-	165,000
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,237,382</u>	<u>5,347</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>222,824</u>	<u>1,465,553</u>	<u>1,505,956</u>

Balance Sheet as at 30th September 2025

		2025	2024
		£	£
	Notes		
Fixed Assets:			
Tangible Assets	10	907,507	919,537
Investments	11	388,507	458,718
Total fixed assets		<u>1,296,014</u>	<u>1,378,255</u>
Current Assets:			
Debtors	12	286,182	227,361
Cash at bank and in hand		82,861	109,158
Total current assets		<u>369,043</u>	<u>336,519</u>
Liabilities:			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	199,504	208,818
Net current assets		169,539	127,701
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,465,553</u>	<u>1,505,956</u>
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted funds	15	1,237,382	1,256,833
Designated funds	14	222,824	246,172
Restricted funds	17	5,347	2,951
Total charity funds		<u>1,465,553</u>	<u>1,505,956</u>

Approved by the Standing Committee on and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Most Reverend M J Strange (Trustee)

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 30th September 2025

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Statement of Compliance

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) and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

1.2 Basis of preparation

United Diocese of Moray, Ross and Caithness 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 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 £.

1.3 Judgements

The use of judgement when applying accounting policies is not deemed to have had a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

1.4 Key sources of estimation and uncertainties

There are deemed to be no key sources of estimation uncertainty on the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities included within the financial statements

1.5 Fund accounting policy

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Standing Committee for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

1.6 Transfers between funds

Transfers between funds are made at discretion of the Trustees.

1.7 Incoming resources

Donations include, where applicable, Gift Aid Tax recovered thereon, and are accounted for in the year of receipt. All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming resources are allocated to the appropriate fund (restricted or unrestricted) depending on whether or not the donor places restrictions upon the income.

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 30th September 2025

1.8 Resources Expended

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended.

Governance costs represent expenditure on the governance of the Diocese.

1.9 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets other than freehold land are initially capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost, less its residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Freehold land and buildings	No depreciation charged
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	25% reducing balance basis and 25% straightline
Computer Equipment	100% straight line basis
Motor Vehicles	25% reducing balance basis

Depreciation is not charged on freehold land & buildings as the estimated residual value is not materially different from the carrying value. This is a true and fair view over-ride.

1.10 Investments

Investments are stated at market value as at 30th September 2025 and are held primarily for an investment return.

Investments are held in the Scottish Episcopal Church Unit Trust Pool - a listed investment. Unit prices are calculated monthly based on stock market fluctuations.

Gains and losses on revaluation of investments are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which the gain or loss arises.

1.11 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.

1.12 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.

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

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 30th September 2025

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.

1.13 Taxation

The Diocese is an exempt charity and is not liable to Corporation Tax within the meaning of the Taxes Acts. Accordingly it is exempt from taxation in respect of income and capital gains to the extent that such income or gains are applied to charitable purposes.

1.14 Pensions

The Diocese contributes towards a defined contribution scheme administered and operated by the Scottish Episcopal Church. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Diocese.

Annual contributions payable are charged through the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme. Employees of the Diocese are entitled to join the pension scheme with the Diocese making a contribution at the rate of 32.2% of standard stipend or salary as applicable.

1.15 Going concern

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

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 30th September 2025

		2025				2024			
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Designated funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Designated funds £
2 Donations & Legacies									
Voluntary income		189,976	-	-	-	181,151	-	-	485
Donations		12,525	-	-	6,275	683	-	-	4,421
Bishop's Lent & other appeals		-	-	-	7,206	-	-	-	3,046
Mission Provision		-	-	-	42,086	-	-	-	56,153
Crask Inn projects		-	-	-	-	5,000	-	-	-
Grouped Charges		-	-	-	17,991	-	-	-	14,665
		<u>202,501</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>73,557</u>	<u>186,834</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>78,770</u>
3 Charitable Activities									
SEC grants - Diocesan operations	3a	43,607	5,000	-	-	18,566	-	-	-
SEC grants - Charges operations	3b	90,641	-	-	22,094	45,892	-	-	28,874
SEC grants - Primus		15,291	-	-	-	14,576	-	-	-
Grants from outside bodies		185	-	-	-	-	10,979	-	-
Hospitality charges		-	-	-	-	1,330	-	-	-
Employment allowance		5,686	-	-	-	2,819	-	-	-
Fees		4,005	-	-	-	4,348	-	-	-
Sundry income		55	-	-	-	569	-	-	-
Dunderdale Fund - bishopric		-	-	17,850	-	-	-	15,715	-
		<u>159,470</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>17,850</u>	<u>22,094</u>	<u>88,101</u>	<u>10,979</u>	<u>15,715</u>	<u>28,874</u>
3a SEC grants - Diocesan operations									
Mission & Ministry		-	5,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Youth work		6,068	-	-	-	5,784	-	-	-
Dean		3,472	-	-	-	3,485	-	-	-
Curacy		31,533	-	-	-	2,697	-	-	-
Travel		621	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bishop's travel		1,913	-	-	-	6,600	-	-	-
		<u>43,607</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,566</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
3b SEC grants - Charges operations									
IDG Group of Churches		15,560	-	-	-	16,196	-	-	-
Inverness City		12,453	-	-	-	21,599	-	-	-
St Columba's, Nairn		6,433	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
St Anne's, Strathpeffer		12,866	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mission support		43,330	-	-	-	8,098	-	-	-
Stipend increase support		-	-	-	1,500	-	-	-	8,475
Northwest Charges		-	-	-	8,495	-	-	-	9,549
Dunderdale Fund distribution		-	-	-	12,100	-	-	-	10,850
		<u>90,641</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,094</u>	<u>45,892</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,874</u>
4 Investment income									
Endowment funds		-	-	-	-	1,818	-	-	-
Unit trust income		11,576	-	-	-	13,107	-	-	-
Rental income		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest receivable		1,383	-	-	-	2,654	-	-	-
		<u>12,959</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,579</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 30th September 2025

		2025				2024			
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Designated funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Designated funds £
5 Expenditure on charitable activities									
Bishop's stipend & expenses	5a	54,365	-	17,850	-	71,274	-	15,715	-
Mission & ministry salaries & expenses	5b	-	-	-	25,278	-	-	-	71,843
Curacy costs		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Provincial quota		48,968	-	-	-	47,840	-	-	-
Appeals Disbursed		-	-	-	7,401	-	-	-	3,266
Committee & Synod expenses		3,739	-	-	-	4,810	-	-	-
Dean's expenses		3,472	-	-	-	4,191	-	-	-
Loan interest		874	-	-	-	1,115	-	-	-
Worship & ministry costs		-	-	-	10,414	-	-	-	-
Grants payable	5c	122,674	2,604	-	104,367	49,589	8,028	-	86,128
Support costs	5e	190,078	-	-	3,073	123,294	-	-	6,538
		<u>424,170</u>	<u>2,604</u>	<u>17,850</u>	<u>150,532</u>	<u>302,114</u>	<u>8,028</u>	<u>15,715</u>	<u>167,774</u>
5a Bishop's stipend and expenses									
Stipend		33,117	-	17,850	-	32,870	-	15,715	-
National Insurance		6,283	-	-	-	5,450	-	-	-
Pension		8,316	-	-	-	11,251	-	-	-
Housing costs		2,152	-	-	-	3,692	-	-	-
Hospitality costs		36	-	-	-	1,131	-	-	-
Car & travel expenses		4,461	-	-	-	16,881	-	-	-
		<u>54,365</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,850</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,274</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,715</u>	<u>-</u>
5b Diocesan mission & ministry									
Salaries & expenses									
Salaries, NI & pension		-	-	-	25,278	-	-	-	71,506
Stipend Increase Support		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	337
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,278</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,843</u>
5c Grants payable									
		2025				2024			
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Designated funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Designated funds £
Disbursement of SEC grants	5d	122,174	-	-	2,024	48,589	-	-	26,261
Disbursement of other grants		500	154	-	-	1,000	-	-	-
Mission Development		-	-	-	101,803	-	-	-	49,867
Benefact Grant		-	2,450	-	-	-	8,028	-	-
Recovery & Renewal Fund		-	-	-	540	-	-	-	10,000
		<u>122,674</u>	<u>2,604</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>104,367</u>	<u>49,589</u>	<u>8,028</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>86,128</u>
5d Disbursement of SEC grants									
Dunderdale Fund for Charges		-	-	-	525	-	-	-	19,813
Support for Charges		90,641	-	-	-	45,892	-	-	-
Curacy costs		31,533	-	-	-	2,697	-	-	-
Stipend Increase Support		-	-	-	1,499	-	-	-	6,448
Recovery & Renewal Fund		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		<u>122,174</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,024</u>	<u>48,589</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,261</u>

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 30th September 2025

	2025				2024			
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Designated funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Designated funds
5e Support Costs	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Treasurer & Primus PA Salary	53,861	-	-	-	49,411	-	-	-
Diocesan Registrar	11,103	-	-	-	3,518	-	-	-
Warden of the Crask	22,448	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Administrators' Salary	16,310	-	-	-	15,832	-	-	-
Training	-	-	-	3,073	-	-	-	2,798
Youth work	6,151	-	-	-	6,373	-	-	574
Depreciation	12,030	-	-	-	16,454	-	-	-
Rent, rates, cleaning & insurance	8,094	-	-	-	3,172	-	-	3,166
Heat & light - Diocesan offices	8,795	-	-	-	3,944	-	-	-
Printing, postage & stationery	645	-	-	-	290	-	-	-
Telephone & fax	3,848	-	-	-	3,273	-	-	-
Diocesan hospitality & events	10,551	-	-	-	1,377	-	-	-
Internet & computer costs	4,164	-	-	-	6,630	-	-	-
Diocesan buildings repairs	13,312	-	-	-	4,352	-	-	-
Travel costs	621	-	-	-	287	-	-	-
Bank charges	643	-	-	-	614	-	-	-
Sundries	449	-	-	-	125	-	-	-
Professional Fees	13,913	-	-	-	5,422	-	-	-
Independent Examiners fee 6	3,140	-	-	-	2,220	-	-	-
	<u>190,078</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,073</u>	<u>123,294</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,538</u>

The following trustees received fees or remuneration during the year as follows:

Payments were made to the Diocesan Registrar's firm for legal services provided amounting to 11,103 John Smart
The fee paid to the Registrar's firm included the cost of preparing the Register of Controlled Interest. The cost is being recovered from Charges over a 10 year period at a rate of £2,500 per annum. The expenditure sits in the accounts as an asset.
The decision was made to allocate 1/3 of the salary of the manager of the Crask Inn Ltd to the Warden of the Crask roll. This figure represents current and prior year costs. The Warden of the Crask was paid a salary of 22,448 Shane Sieweke
The Diocesan Treasurer & Primus PA was paid a salary of - Louise Monaghan

6 Independent Examiners remuneration

	2025	2024
	£	£
Examination of the financial statements	3,140	2,220

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 30th September 2025

7 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year, the Diocese paid the Bishop's salary amounting to £50,967 (2024 £48,585). The authority for payment of the salary is Canon Law, in particular, Canon 6. Pension contributions of £8,316 (2024 £11,251) were also paid for the Bishop during the year. The Bishop was also provided with the use of a car.

Payments were made to the Diocesan Registrar's firm for legal services provided amounting to £11,103 (2024 £28,518)

The Treasurer & Primus PA received a salary of £39,051.50 (2024 £27,921). Pension contributions of £9,201.54 (2024 £8,995) were also paid during the year. The Treasurer was also paid £9,503 for additional hours worked. £4,844 is included as an accrual in the accounts. No pension contributions were paid on the additional hours.

During the year, the Diocese also paid expenses to trustees as follows in respect of housing, hospitality, motor & travel expenses as follows:

	2025	2024
Bishop	6,649	21,704
Dean	3,472	4,191

8 Employees

2025	2024
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8a Number of employees

The average number of employees during the year was:

Clergy	3	3
Mission development	2	2
Warden	1	0
Administration	3	3
	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>

The employee numbers are a head count and includes full and part time employees in post at the year end.

8b Employment costs

	£	£
Wages and salaries	204,133	149,625
Taxes & social security costs	20,741	12,997
Pension costs	42,757	40,545
	<u>267,631</u>	<u>203,168</u>

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000 is as follows:

£60,000 - £69,999	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
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8c Pension

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the period represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £42,757 (2024 £40,545).

The option to contribute additional voluntary contributions was made available to all on the payroll. The curate's pension contribution was outstanding at the end of the financial year. This has been accrued for in the accounts.

No pension contribution was paid on the additional hours worked by the treasurer.

9 Taxation

The Diocese has been accepted as a charity for tax purposes. Relief is therefore due under Section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 under Scottish Charity Number 004655.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 30th September 2025

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land & buildings £	Motor Vehicles £	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 01.10.24	872,129	56,394	27,761	956,284
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 30.09.25	<u>872,129</u>	<u>56,394</u>	<u>27,761</u>	<u>956,284</u>
Depreciation				
At 01.10.24	711	14,099	21,937	36,747
Charge for year	-	10,574	1,456	12,030
At 30.09.25	<u>711</u>	<u>24,673</u>	<u>23,393</u>	<u>48,777</u>
Net book value				
At 30.09.25	<u>871,418</u>	<u>31,721</u>	<u>4,368</u>	<u>907,507</u>
At 30.09.24	<u>871,418</u>	<u>42,295</u>	<u>5,824</u>	<u>919,537</u>

10a Land & Buildings

Bishop's House	280,125
Diocesan Centre	175,420
St Mary's church & flat, Ullapool	240,000
Crask Inn improvements	10,874
St Mary's in the Fields	165,000
	<u>871,418</u>

11 Investments

SEC Unit Trust - listed investments held primarily for an investment return

	Unrestricted fund	Total
Units 30.09.25	<u>11,662</u>	<u>11,662</u>
	£	£
Market value 30.09.24	458,718	458,718
Disposal	100,000	100,000
Market value adjustment to 30.09.25	29,789	29,789
Market value at 30.09.25	<u>388,507</u>	<u>388,507</u>

12 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	20,279	17,821
Car loans	6,946	12,136
Other debtors	258,957	197,404
	<u>286,182</u>	<u>227,361</u>

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	5,465	6,623
Car loan	21,560	31,345
Accruals	12,137	15,816
Deferred income	1,651	2,273
Other creditors	158,691	152,760
	<u>199,504</u>	<u>208,818</u>

Deferred income is made up as follows:

Provincial grant unused	<u>1,651</u>	<u>2,273</u>
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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 30th September 2025

14 Designated Funds

The funds of the Diocese include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the Diocesan Standing Committee for specific purposes

	Balance at 01.10.24	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers in / (out)	Balance at 30.09.25	Note
	£	£	£		£	
Dunderdale Fund	-	12,100	525	-	11,575	3b
Discernment Grant Fund	1,110	-	-	-	1,110	
Retreats	646	-	-	-	646	
Training	4,805	-	3,073	-	1,733	
Crask Inn	5,809	6,275	10,414	-	1,670	
Mission Provision	188,052	42,086	101,803	32,354	160,689	2
Lent & Other Appeal Funds	195	7,206	7,401	-	-	2
Church Renewal Fund	32,195	-	540	-	31,655	3
Speyside Mission	821	-	-	(821)	-	
Transition Grant	-	1,500	1,499	-	1	
North West Charges	-	26,485	25,278	-	1,207	
<i>Provision for:</i>						
Diocesan Events	4,047	-	-	-	4,047	
Website Maintenance	2,177	-	-	-	2,177	
Office Equipment	3,500	-	-	-	3,500	
IT Costs	2,814	-	-	-	2,814	
	<u>246,172</u>	<u>95,652</u>	<u>150,532</u>	<u>31,533</u>	<u>222,824</u>	

The Dunderdale Fund is to be used for the support of Charges in financial need.

The Discernment Grant Fund was set up to provide small grants to those going through the process of discernment

The transition grant was set up to assist Charges with the increase in stipend costs.

The Retreats Fund is earmarked to assist with the financing of clergy and/or lay retreats.

The Crask Inn Fund represents funds received and distributed in relation to services held

The Training Scheme receives payments from trainees to cover the cost of providing the courses. Funds carried forward will be used to defray the cost of future training events.

The Mission Provision fund is there to support mission initiatives in the Diocese

The Lent Appeal Fund represents sums received for specific appeals as decided by the Bishop in consultation with the Standing Committee.

Grouped Charges are funded from multiple sources such as congregations, Diocesan grants & Provincial grants.

The provisions are a means of spreading the cost of expenditure over a number of years so that a major outlay does not impact adversely on a single year..

14A Reconciliation in movement of funds with the SOFA

SOFA	£
Direct costs	(46,166)
Grants	(104,367)
	<u>(150,532)</u>
Movement on funds	
Resources expended	<u>150,532</u>
	<u>150,532</u>

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 30th September 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
15 General fund			
Balance at 01.10.24		1,256,833	1,039,194
Property introduced		-	165,000
Unrealised gains/losses on Investments		29,789	60,708
Surplus/deficit of income		(49,240)	(9,600)
Transfer to/from designated funds		-	1,531
Balance at 30.09.25		<u>1,237,382</u>	<u>1,256,833</u>

The General Fund is a combination of funds accumulated by the Diocese not earmarked for specific purposes.

16 Restricted fund

	Balance at 01.10.24 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers in / (out)	Balance at 30.09.25 £
Restricted funds	<u>2,951</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>2,604</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,347</u>

The restricted funds are made up of a grant from The Benefact Trust and is to be used by the charity for charitable giving to other Christian organisations and an SEC grant for the development of mission in the East Sutherland area.

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 30.09.25 represented by:					
Tangible fixed assets	10	907,507	-	-	907,507
Investments	11	356,852	-	31,655	388,507
Current assets		172,527	5,347	191,169	369,043
Creditors	13	- 199,504	-	-	- 199,504
		<u>1,237,382</u>	<u>5,347</u>	<u>222,824</u>	<u>1,465,553</u>

18 Non diocesan funds received and disbursed

	B/F	Received £	Disbursed £	Balance held £
Strathbran Mausoleum	2,369	-	-	2,369
Discretionary fund	-	2,910	-	2,910
Sale of Cailhness Parsonage	127,226	-	-	127,226
Central payment of stipends	- 88,821	373,647	388,620	- 103,795
	<u>40,775</u>	<u>376,556</u>	<u>388,620</u>	<u>28,710</u>

Strathbran Mausoleum are funds held for use by the Dean for the maintenance of the Mausoleum.
Stipends and salaries are paid regardless of whether the funds have been received from charges by the date of payment.

19 Related parties

The Crask Inn Ltd was incorporated in June 2023 to run The Crask Inn on behalf the charity. During the year the charity paid expenses of £35,327.60 (2024 - £68,111) on behalf of The Crask Inn Ltd. The immigration costs were considered not to be a trading cost and the amount included in the Crask Inn Ltd liability was reduced by £11,044 and those costs were transferred to professional fees. Further, as some of the work being undertaken by the manager relates to the position of the Warden of the Crask, 1/3 of the payroll costs for the current year and historically was transferred to wages and salaries. Therefore the he total due back is £79,866.55. These expenses will be refunded to the charity in due course.

20 Control

The charity was under the control of the Trustees throughout the current and previous year.

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Mark Strange Approved Thu, 11 Jun 2026 08:47:14 GMT

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