

**The Presbyterian Church Of Aotearoa New
Zealand Beneficiary Fund**

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

The Presbyterian Church Of Aotearoa New Zealand Beneficiary Fund

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The Presbyterian Church Of Aotearoa New Zealand Beneficiary Fund
Statement of Net Assets
As at 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents		4,133	37,252
Presbyterian Investment Fund deposits	7	35,078	170,840
Financial Assets at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss	4	47,587,716	47,896,464
Sundry Receivables		6,179	-
Total Assets		<u>47,633,106</u>	<u>48,104,556</u>
LIABILITIES			
Other Payables	5	-	65,005
Sundry Creditors	5	41,257	38,547
Total Liabilities		<u>41,257</u>	<u>103,552</u>
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	3	<u><u>47,591,849</u></u>	<u><u>48,001,004</u></u>
LIABILITY FOR PROMISED BENEFITS			
<i>Represented by:</i>			
Member accounts			
Member account		5,253,269	4,523,420
Continuing Value account		38,953,056	40,617,177
Employer accounts			
Employer account		3,385,524	2,754,572
Reserve account		-	105,835
		<u>47,591,849</u>	<u>48,001,004</u>

For and on behalf of the Trustee, who authorised the issue of these financial statements on:

Director: M. N. Galt

Date: 12/10/2023

Director: Maui Feller

Date: 12/10/2023

The Presbyterian Church Of Aotearoa New Zealand Beneficiary Fund
Statement of Changes in Net Assets
For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Income			
Interest		5,749	3,461
Gain/(Loss) on Financial Assets at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss	6	3,185,735	(3,864,118)
		<u>3,191,484</u>	<u>(3,860,657)</u>
Investment Expenses			
Investment Management Fees		(427,872)	(450,368)
Investment Management Rebates		151,209	142,170
Net Investment Income		<u>2,914,821</u>	<u>(4,168,855)</u>
EXPENSES			
Actuarial Fees		-	492
Administration and Management Charges		54,000	54,000
Fees for audit of financial statement		28,904	25,151
Consulting Fees		9,594	19,148
Legal Expenses		9,504	13,162
Trustee Expenses	7	80,975	85,770
Sundry Expenses		25,594	26,802
Total Expenses		<u>208,571</u>	<u>224,525</u>
Net Profit/(Loss)		<u>2,706,250</u>	<u>(4,393,380)</u>
MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES			
Contributions			
Member Contributions		550,971	564,723
Government Contributions		32,533	32,823
Church Contributions		386,226	402,491
Total Contributions		<u>969,730</u>	<u>1,000,037</u>
Benefits Paid			
Regular drawdowns		1,356,504	1,372,729
Retirements / Withdrawals		2,616,538	2,132,681
Death Benefits		112,093	-
Total Benefits Paid		<u>4,085,135</u>	<u>3,505,410</u>
Net Membership Activities		(3,115,405)	(2,505,373)
Net (Decrease) in Net Assets During Year		<u>(409,155)</u>	<u>(6,898,753)</u>
Net Assets Available For Benefits at Beginning of Year		48,001,004	54,899,757
Net Assets Available For Benefits at End of Year		<u>47,591,849</u>	<u>48,001,004</u>

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes on pages 4 to 9

The Presbyterian Church Of Aotearoa New Zealand Beneficiary Fund
Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
<i>Cash provided from</i>			
Member Contributions		550,971	564,722
Church Contributions		386,226	402,491
Government Contributions		32,533	32,823
Bank Interest		1,511	74
		<u>971,241</u>	<u>1,000,110</u>
<i>Cash applied to</i>			
Benefits Paid		4,085,135	3,505,410
Fund Operating Costs		277,046	228,023
		<u>4,362,181</u>	<u>3,733,433</u>
Net Cash Out Flows applied to Operating Activities	8	<u>(3,390,940)</u>	<u>(2,733,323)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
<i>Cash provided from</i>			
Proceeds from Sale of Investments		4,261,171	3,684,384
<i>Cash applied to</i>			
Purchase of investments		903,350	939,381
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities		<u>3,357,821</u>	<u>2,745,003</u>
Net (Decrease)/Increase in Cash Held		<u>(33,119)</u>	<u>11,680</u>
Cash at Beginning of Year		37,252	25,572
Cash at End of Year		<u><u>4,133</u></u>	<u><u>37,252</u></u>

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes on pages 4 to 9

1. (a) Fund Description

The Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand Beneficiary Fund ("Beneficiary Fund" or "Fund") is a restricted workplace savings scheme registered under the Financial Market Conduct Act 2013 ("FMCA"). It was established in the early 1900's to provide retirement benefits to nationally ordained ministers of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand ("Church").

The Presbyterian Beneficiary Fund Trustee Limited ("Trustee") is the Fund's trustee and the Administration manager is Melville Jessup Weaver.

The Fund is domiciled in New Zealand and the address of the principal place of business is Ground floor, 275-283 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington, 6141.

From 1 July 2017, the Fund has been a defined contribution scheme consisting of a New Benefits Section and Complying Fund Section. All nationally ordained ministers are required to join the Fund in accordance with the standard terms of appointment set by the Church. The Trustee may also accept applications from those deemed to be in kindred service. Personal contributions are made to the Fund at the prescribed rate of 5% of Basic Stipend. Church contributions are made to the Fund at a matching 5% of Basic Stipend (before the deduction of Employer Superannuation Contribution Tax, if any). Contribution rates for kindred members may vary. Members may withdraw their savings on reaching retirement age or leaving active ministry. Additional withdrawals may also be approved in the event of serious illness, financial hardship, first home purchase and permanent emigration.

The Fund offers four investment options: Cash; Conservative; Balanced; and Growth. The Fund's investments are managed in a socially responsible investment fashion. Members are allocated units in the investment option(s) of their choice, with daily unit pricing.

(b) Fund History

Prior to 30 June 2017, the Fund was primarily a contributory defined benefit superannuation scheme, with two defined benefit sections and a defined contribution component (Complying Fund Section). In November 2016, the General Assembly, the governing body of the Church, approved the wind up of the defined benefit sections of the Fund ("Old DB Sections") and the creation of a new defined contribution section (New Benefits Section). The Complying Fund Section continued unchanged.

The amount payable to members under wind up was determined as at 30 November 2017 and as at 30 June 2020 all members had received all their wind up entitlements. Members in receipt of wind up entitlements were able to reinvest those funds in the Fund. Funds reinvested in the New Benefits Section (as a Continuing Value balance) are available for withdrawal at any time.

The General Assembly determined that any surplus on the wind-up of the Old DB Sections would be transferred to a new charitable fund called the Presbyterian Benevolent Fund. The Fund has transferred the surplus funds to the Presbyterian Benevolent Fund. It was also determined that prior to the determination of the surplus, some funds would be retained in the Fund to subsidise costs for a period of five years. The balance of these funds is reflected in the Reserve Account balance in the Statement of Net Assets.

(c) Trust Deed

The current Trust Deed is dated 28 September 2020. This Deed removed references to the Old DB Sections, replacing a Trust Deed dated 5 April 2018.

The Trust Deed sets out the basis on which the Fund can be terminated.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements of the Fund have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand ("NZ GAAP"), the requirements of the FMCA and the Trust Deed governing the Fund. They comply with New Zealand equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards ("NZ IFRS") and other applicable Financial Reporting Standards, as appropriate for profit-oriented entities. The financial statements also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS").

Statement of Compliance

The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements.

Measurement Base

The measurement base adopted is that of historical cost modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets which are measured at fair value through profit or loss at each reporting date. The going concern assumption has been adopted.

Functional and Presentational currency

The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars which is the Fund's functional and presentation currency. All values are rounded to the nearest dollar (\$).

Classification of assets and liabilities

Assets and liabilities are disclosed in the Statement of Net Assets in an order that reflects their relative liquidity and are not distinguished between current and non-current.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Cont'd)

New accounting standards and interpretations

(i) Changes in accounting policy and disclosures

There have been no changes to accounting policies during the year.

(ii) Accounting standards issued but not yet effective

The standards and interpretations, which are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2022, did not have a material impact on the financial statements of the Fund.

Income

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest rate method. Gains/losses on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss includes realised gains/losses on the disposal of financial assets and unrealised gains/losses arising from changes in the fair value of financial assets.

Expenses

Expenses are recognised on an accruals basis.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

The Fund is not registered for GST and consequently all components of the financial statements are stated inclusive of GST where appropriate.

Taxation

The Fund is a registered charitable entity which means that Income earned by the Fund is exempt from income tax in New Zealand.

Financial Instruments

(i) Classification

The Fund classifies its financial assets and financial liabilities as:

(1) Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

The Fund includes in this category investments in managed investment funds. They are mandatorily measured at fair value through profit or loss because they are retirement benefit plan investments.

(2) Financial assets at amortised cost

The Fund includes in this category cash and cash equivalents, sundry receivables and deposits in the Presbyterian Investment Fund. These assets are classified as financial assets at amortised cost because the contractual terms give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal outstanding and are managed to collect the contractual cash flows.

(3) Financial liabilities at amortised cost

The Fund includes in this category payables which may include sundry creditors and other payables owing by the Fund which are unpaid at balance date. All financial liabilities are included in this category.

(ii) Recognition/Derecognition

The Fund recognises financial assets and liabilities on the date they become party to the contractual agreement (trade date).

Financial assets are derecognised when the right to receive cash flows from the asset has expired or the Fund has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership.

(iii) Measurement

(1) Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are measured initially at fair value. After initial recognition, financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are revalued to fair value with changes in their fair value recognised in the profit or loss.

(2) Financial assets at amortised cost

Financial assets measured at amortised cost are measured initially at fair value plus transaction costs and subsequently amortised using the effective interest rate method, less expected credit losses (if any).

(3) Financial liabilities at amortised cost

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost are measured using the effective interest method.

Statement of Cash Flows

The cash flows of the Scheme do not include those of the investment manager(s). The following are definitions of the terms used in the Statement of Cash Flows:

Cash and cash equivalents - includes cash on hand, other short term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, and bank overdrafts.

Operating activities - include all transactions and other events that are not investing activities.

Investing activities - comprise acquisition and disposal of investments. Investments include securities not falling within the definition of cash.

Member contributions and benefits paid

Contributions and benefits are accounted for on an accruals basis. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Changes in Net Assets when they become receivable or are received. Benefits are recognised in the Statement of Changes in Net Assets when they become payable resulting in financial liability.

Members' funds

Each unit issued confers an equal interest in the investment option of the Fund to which the unit relates. A unit does not confer any rights or interest in the individual investment options of the Fund to the member.

Net assets available for benefits

Net assets available for benefits is the Fund's present obligation to pay benefits to members and is the difference between the carrying amount of the assets and the carrying amount of the liabilities.

Capital risk management

The Fund's primary purpose is to ensure that its net assets are sufficient to meet all present and future obligations of the Fund. The Fund is not subject to any externally imposed capital requirements.

The Fund achieves this through obtaining contributions from members and the Church and investing these into appropriate investments in accordance with its Statement of Investment Policies and Objectives ("SIPO").

The Presbyterian Church Of Aotearoa New Zealand Beneficiary Fund
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023

3. Liability for Promised Retirement Benefits:

Changes in promised retirement benefits as at 30 June 2023:	Member Account	Employer Account	Continuing Value Account	Reserve Account	Total 2023
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2022	4,523,420	2,754,572	40,617,177	105,835	48,001,004
Contributions	583,479	386,251	-	-	969,730
Withdrawals	(258,018)	(61,321)	(3,765,796)	-	(4,085,135)
Fee Subsidy	-	-	116,257	(116,257)	-
Net Investment movement	404,389	306,022	1,985,418	10,421	2,706,250
Balance at 30 June 2023	5,253,269	3,385,524	38,953,056	-	47,591,849

Changes in promised retirement benefits as at 30 June 2022:	Member Account	Employer Account	Continuing Value Account	Reserve Account	Total 2022
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2021	4,287,217	2,510,369	47,817,873	284,297	54,899,757
Contributions	597,545	402,491	-	-	1,000,037
Withdrawals	(88,447)	(53,815)	(3,363,148)	-	(3,505,410)
Fee Subsidy	-	-	184,349	(184,349)	-
Net Investment movement	(272,895)	(104,473)	(4,021,897)	5,887	(4,393,379)
Balance at 30 June 2022	4,523,420	2,754,572	40,617,177	105,835	48,001,004

The Continuing Value Account represents Members' wind up entitlements reinvested in the Fund. These balances are available for withdrawal at any time.

The Reserve Account represents the balance of funds from the wind up surplus retained in the Fund to help offset the costs of running the Fund. It was determined that \$800,000 would be retained, with approximately \$150,000 used each year to subsidise administration costs. The balance was held in the Presbyterian Investment Fund ("PIF") On Call account, with any interest earned added to the account. At 30 June 2023 this balance of funds from the wind up surplus had been fully extinguished. However, the Trustee of the Presbyterian Benevolent Fund has agreed to grant \$150,000 per annum for a period of five years from 1 July 2023.

4. Investments in Presbyterian Investment Fund Deposits and Investments at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss

The Fund utilises a number of financial instruments in the course of its normal investing activities. Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted, including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement and the basis on which revenues and expenses are recognised in respect of each class of financial asset and financial liability are disclosed in the accounting policies.

The Trustee has approved a SIPO which establishes investment portfolio objectives and target asset allocations. Performance against these targets is reviewed at least quarterly by the Trustee and asset reallocations undertaken as required.

Investments as at 30 June consist of the following:

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Domestic Fixed Interest	35,078	170,840
Mercer - Cash Fund	637,099	656,607
Mercer - Conservative Fund	10,717,641	12,249,497
Mercer - Balance Fund	28,413,579	28,309,547
Mercer - Growth Fund	7,819,396	6,680,813
	<u>47,622,794</u>	<u>48,067,304</u>

Investment classes > 5% of Net Assets

	2023	2022
Mercer - Conservative Fund	23%	26%
Mercer - Balance Fund	60%	59%
Mercer - Growth Fund	16%	14%

5. (i) Other Payables

Provision for wind-up cost	-	65,005
	<u>-</u>	<u>65,005</u>

(ii) Sundry Creditors

Other Expenses	41,257	38,547
	<u>41,257</u>	<u>38,547</u>

The provision for wind up cost 5(i) represents a provision set aside from the wind up surplus to meet costs associated with any changes to membership provisions implemented by the Church. The Trustee has determined that given the time that has elapsed, this provision is no longer required. As a result, during the year the balance of the provision as at 1 July 2022 of \$65,005 was transferred to the Presbyterian Benevolent Fund (with no further wind up proceeds now held in the Beneficiary Fund).

6. Gain/(Loss) on Financial Assets Held at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Mercer Investments	3,185,735	(3,864,118)
	<u>3,185,735</u>	<u>(3,864,118)</u>

The Presbyterian Church Of Aotearoa New Zealand Beneficiary Fund
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023

7 Related Party Transactions

During the year no payments were made by the Fund to the General Assembly for management services provided (2022: Nil).

AS noted above in Note 3, the Fund has a PIF On Call account, a consolidated short duration fund offering deposits available on call. The Trustee of the PIF is The Presbyterian Church Property Trustees, which is the sole shareholder of Presbyterian Beneficiary Fund Trustee Limited, the Fund's Trustee. During the year there were no additional deposits by the Fund in the PIF (2022: Nil). Other withdrawals relating to redemptions amounted to \$140,000 (2022: \$184,349). The Investment generated an interest income for \$4,238 (2022: \$3,387). The closing balance as at 30 June 2023 was \$35,078 (2022: \$170,840).

As noted above in Note 3, the Trustee of the Presbyterian Benevolent Fund has agreed to subsidise the costs of running the Fund. At 30 June 2023, \$6,179 was due to be paid from the Benevolent Fund into the PIF for the purpose of subsidising the running costs. (2022: Nil).

The Fund paid \$80,975 to The Presbyterian Church Property Trustees for trustee services provided (2022: \$85,770).

No debts were forgiven during the year (2022: Nil). At balance date there were no amounts owing from the Fund to the General Assembly (2022: Nil).

8 Reconciliation of Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities to Decrease in Net Assets

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Net Profit/(Loss) before membership activities	2,706,250	(4,393,380)
Non-cash items		
(Gain)/loss on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	(3,185,735)	3,864,118
Distribution income received as units	(4,238)	(3,387)
Management fee	276,662	308,196
Movement in working capital items		
Increase in Sundry Receivables	(6,179)	-
Decrease in Other payables	(65,005)	(2,500)
Increase/(Decrease) in Sundry Creditors	2,710	(997)
Membership Activities		
Contribution received	969,730	1,000,037
Benefit paid	(4,085,135)	(3,505,410)
Net Cash Out Flows from Operating Activities	(3,390,940)	(2,733,323)

9 Financial Instruments

Financial Instruments by Category	Financial assets at Amortised cost	Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss
As at 30 June 2023	\$	\$
Assets as per the Statement of Net Assets		
Financial assets at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss	-	47,587,716
Presbyterian Investment Fund deposits	35,078	-
Sundry Receivables	6,179	-
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4,133	-
Total	<u>45,390</u>	<u>47,587,716</u>
	Financial liabilities at Amortised cost	Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss
As at 30 June 2023	\$	\$
Liabilities as per the Statement of Net Assets		
Sundry Creditors	41,257	-
Total	<u>41,257</u>	<u>-</u>
	Financial assets at Amortised cost	Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss
As at 30 June 2022	\$	\$
Assets as per the Statement of Net Assets		
Financial assets at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss	-	47,896,464
Presbyterian Investment Fund deposits	170,840	-
Cash and Cash Equivalents	37,252	-
Total	<u>208,092</u>	<u>47,896,464</u>
	Financial liabilities at Amortised cost	Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss
As at 30 June 2022	\$	\$
Liabilities as per the Statement of Net Assets		
Sundry Creditors	38,547	-
Other Payables	65,005	-
Total	<u>103,552</u>	<u>-</u>

10 Financial Risk Management

The Trustees have determined, in consultation with professional investment advisors, an investment strategy for the Fund. This strategy is contained in the SIPO. This document is regularly reviewed by the Trustees to ensure it remains appropriate for prevailing market conditions and the liability profile of the Fund.

The SIPO includes an investment target (i.e. to achieve a rate of return that exceeds an investment Index) for each manager in each asset class that they manage for the Fund. Failure by an Investment manager to achieve the benchmark rate of return can result in its mandate being terminated.

The asset classes can be divided into growth and income assets. Growth assets offer significant long-term growth prospects but at the expense of potentially large variations in the short-term asset valuation, whereas income assets are not expected to vary as greatly in their capital value, and provide a regular income stream.

Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk: Currency risk, interest rate risk and Other price risk.

The Investments at fair value through profit & loss are managed by Mercer. The Fund has no influence over how the underlying risks relating to these investments are controlled or mitigated, but considers the underlying investments to be of such a diverse nature so as to reduce significant exposure to the impact of market movements.

The Trustees have considered risk management for the Fund and have set objectives (detailed in the SIPO) including the target risk profile and asset allocation for the investment fund as well as defining performance target objectives within each asset class. The Trustee utilises the services of Mercer Investment Trusts New Zealand to design and implement investment strategies for the Fund.

Currency risk

The Fund is indirectly exposed to currency risk in that future currency movements will affect the valuation of investments which invest in foreign currency denominated investments. During the year the Fund did not directly hold investments denominated in foreign currency.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market interest rates. The Fund's exposure to interest rate risk primarily arises from changes in interest rates applicable to cash and cash equivalents and Presbyterian Investment Fund deposits. The Fund is indirectly exposed to interest rate risk in that future interest rate movements will affect the valuation of investments which invest in cash and fixed interest investments. Interest rate risk management activities are undertaken by the Trustees in accordance with the investment mandate. The Fund's exposure to interest rate risk is not deemed significant.

Other Price Risk

Other price risk is the risk that the fair value of the Fund's Investments will fluctuate as a result of changes in the price of the Fund's Investments. Price risk exposure arises from the Fund's Investment portfolios. Other price risk management activities are undertaken by the investment manager in accordance with the Investment mandates set by the Trustee.

The table below shows the impact on the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits and the statement of net assets due to a reasonably possible change in the price of the Fund's Investments with all other variables held constant:

Change in the price	30 June 2023		Change in the price	30 June 2022	
	Increase/ (Decrease) in Profit before tax	Increase/ (Decrease) in amount available for benefits		Increase/ (Decrease) in Profit before tax	Increase/ (Decrease) in amount available for benefits
	\$	\$		\$	\$
+15%	7,138,157	7,138,157	+15%	7,184,470	7,184,470
-15%	(7,138,157)	(7,138,157)	-15%	(7,184,470)	(7,184,470)

Credit Risk

Credit Risk is the risk a counterparty to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the Fund to incur a financial loss. Concentrations of credit risk are determined on a direct holdings level and are minimised primarily by ensuring counterparties together with their respective limits are approved and ensuring that transactions are undertaken with a number of counterparties.

Cash and cash equivalents and Presbyterian Investment Fund deposits are not past due or impaired. Cash and cash equivalents are held with banks registered in New Zealand.

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk the Fund will encounter difficulty in raising funds to meet its obligation to pay members. Due to the nature of the Fund it is unlikely a significant number of members would withdraw at the same time. However, to control liquidity risk, the Fund invests in financial instruments, which under normal market conditions are readily convertible to cash. In addition, the Fund invests within established limits to ensure no concentration of credit risk. Sundry creditors are typically settled within 30 days.

10 Financial Risk Management (Cont'd)

Fair Value

The following methods and assumptions were used to estimate the fair value of each class of financial instrument:

The carrying amount of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded in the financial statements represents their respective fair values, determined in accordance with the Fund's accounting policies.

The Fund classifies fair value measurements of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss using a fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in making the measurements. The fair value hierarchy has the following levels:

Level 1 - Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2 - Inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (that is, as prices) or;

Level 3 - Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (that is, unobservable inputs).

The level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement is categorised in its entirety is determined on the basis of the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement. For this purpose, the significance of the input is assessed against the fair value measurement. If a fair value measurement uses observable inputs that require significant adjustment based on unobservable inputs, that measurement is a level 3 measurement. Assessing the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgement, considering factors specific to the asset or liability. The determination of what constitutes "observable" requires judgement by the Trustees. The Trustees consider "observable" to be market data that is readily available, regularly distributed or updated, reliable and verifiable, not proprietary and provided by independent sources that are actively involved in the relevant market.

The following table analyses the fair value hierarchy of the Fund's financial assets (by class) measured at fair value:

30 June 2023	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Assets	\$	\$	\$	\$
Mercer Investments	-	47,587,716	-	47,587,716
	-	47,587,716	-	47,587,716
30 June 2022	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Assets	\$	\$	\$	\$
Mercer Investments	-	47,896,464	-	47,896,464
	-	47,896,464	-	47,896,464

The fair value of the units held in the Mercer investment funds is determined by reference to published exit prices, being the redemption price established by Mercer.

11 **Vested Benefits**

Vested benefits are benefits payable to members under conditions of the Fund, on the basis of all members ceasing to be members of the Fund at balance date. The vested benefits at 30 June 2023 is \$47,591,849 (2022: \$47,895,169).

12 **Commitments and Contingent Liabilities**

There were no commitments and no contingent liabilities outstanding as at 30 June 2023. (2022: Nil).

13 **Events After Balance Date**

There have been no material events after balance date that require adjustment to or disclosure in the financial statements.



Independent auditor's report to the members of The Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand Beneficiary Fund

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand Beneficiary Fund (the "Fund") on pages 1 to 9, which comprise the statement of net assets of the Fund as at 30 June 2023, and the statement of changes in net assets and statement of cash flows for the year then ended of the Fund, and the notes to the financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the financial statements on pages 1 to 9 present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as at 30 June 2023 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with New Zealand Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards.

This report is made solely to the Fund's members, as a body. Our audit has been undertaken so that we might state to the Fund's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Fund and the Fund's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report.

We are independent of the Fund in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 *International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand)* issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interest in, the Fund. Partners and employees of our firm may deal with the Fund on normal terms within the ordinary course of trading activities of the business of the Fund.

Key audit matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the financial statements of the current year. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, but we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters. For each matter below, our description of how our audit addressed the matter is provided in that context.

We have fulfilled the responsibilities described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of the audit report, including in relation to these matters. Accordingly, our audit included the performance of procedures designed to respond to our assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements. The results of our audit procedures, including the procedures performed to address the matters below, provide the basis for our audit opinion on the accompanying financial statements.

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Why significant	How our audit addressed the key audit matter
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The Fund’s financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (“investments”) represent approximately 99% of the Fund’s total assets. ▶ As detailed in the Fund’s accounting policies, as described in Note 2 to the financial statements, these investments are recognised at fair value through profit or loss in accordance with NZ IAS 26: <i>Accounting and Reporting by Retirement Benefit Plans</i>. ▶ Volatility and other market drivers can have a significant impact on the value of these investments and the financial statements as a whole, therefore investments is considered a key area of audit focus. ▶ Disclosures regarding the Fund’s investments at 30 June 2023 are included in Note 4 to the financial statements and regarding financial risks are included in Note 10 to the financial statements. 	<p>Our audit procedures included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Gaining an understanding of the processes used to record investment transactions and the monthly revaluation of investments. ▶ Obtaining and considering the Independent Assurance Report on Controls for the manager of the funds in which the Fund invests. We rely on the confirmation provided by the fund manager to support the existence and valuation of investments at balance date. We have considered the implications of any control deficiencies for our audit. ▶ Receiving third party confirmation directly, for all investments held, of the number of units issued to the Fund and their respective exit price at balance date and agreed the recorded holdings to that confirmation. ▶ Recalculating the valuation of the Fund’s investments at balance date. To validate the fair value, we agreed the pricing used for valuation purposes to the exit prices from the third party confirmation. ▶ Agreeing investment applications and redemptions to the third party confirmation from the fund manager and recalculating the resultant gain or loss. ▶ Assessing the disclosures in the financial statements, including whether they appropriately reflected the Fund’s exposure to financial instrument risk with reference to NZ IFRS 7 <i>Financial Instruments: Disclosures</i>.

Information other than the financial statements and auditor’s report

The Directors are responsible for the annual report, which includes information other than the financial statements and auditor’s report which is expected to be made available to us after the date of the auditor’s report.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained during the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

When we read the annual report, if we conclude that there is a material misstatement therein, we are required to communicate the matter to those charged with governance and, if uncorrected, to take appropriate action to bring the matter to the attention of users for whom our auditor's report was prepared.

Directors' responsibilities for the financial statements

The directors are responsible, on behalf of the Fund, for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with New Zealand Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at the External Reporting Board's website: <https://www.xrb.govt.nz/standards-for-assurance-practitioners/auditors-responsibilities/audit-report-2/>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is David Borrie.



Chartered Accountants
Wellington
24 October 2023