

Dear friend of Amaravati,

This leaflet is about how the EST spends the monetary donations the sangha is offered, and answers questions about some of the other management tasks the EST undertakes. This leaflet goes with the narrow one called 'Activities and Projects'.

Amaravati flourishes because of the generosity of its supporters at all levels. You can see below that nearly all income is from free-will donations of one kind or another,

Figure 1 Amaravati Running Cost Income 2018-19, excl. the Retreat Centre, and totaling £566,781

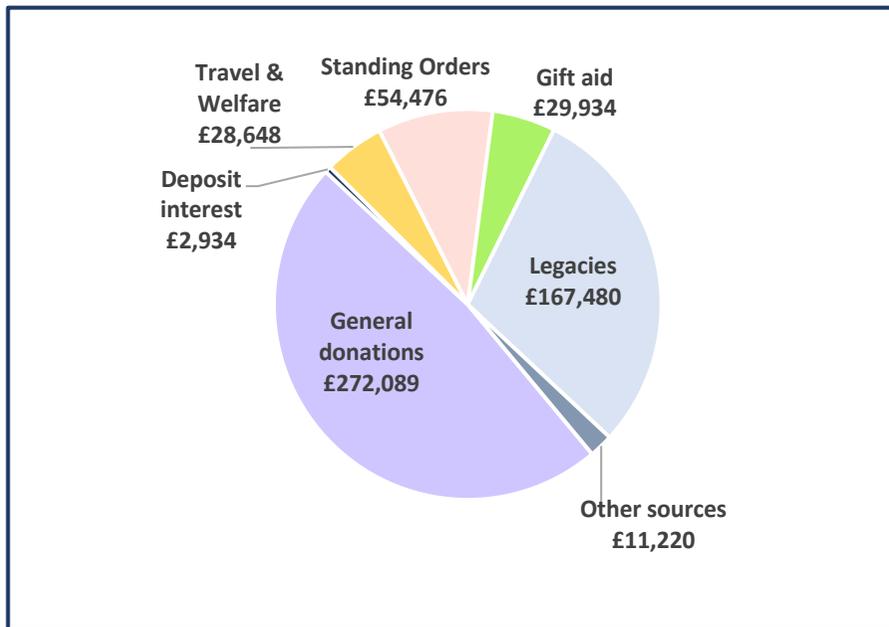
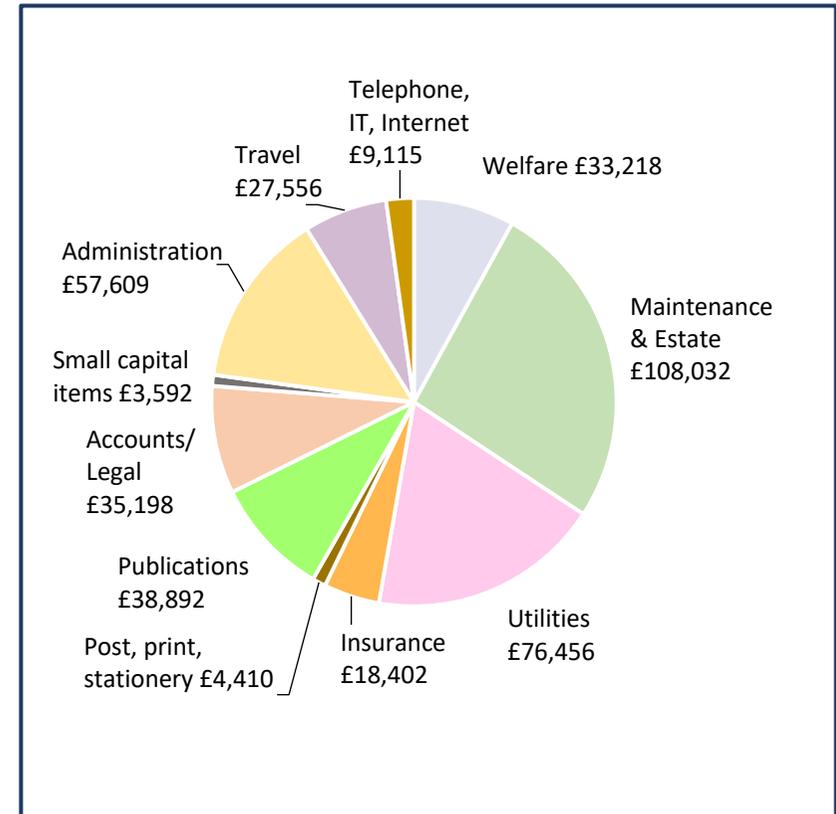


Figure 2 Amaravati Running Cost Expenditure 2018-19, incl. £39,000 of Retreat Centre. This totals £412,480.



Maintenance, and utilities (gas, electricity and water) that keep Amaravati going day-to-day, were again the biggest areas of spending. Much sangha travel is reimbursed by the groups that the sangha members have been invited to in order to offering Dhamma teachings.

Publishing of books for free distribution is often sponsored in memory of a loved one. Likewise, it can be noted that there is no food income, or purchasing, as the community, often of 60 or 70 people even on a weekday, eats food which is brought or sent by supporters who sponsor a dish or a meal.

Capital Income and Expenditure

The two pie charts do not show the Restricted capital income of £3,329,139 which was largely spent on Heartwood House, its field and Bungalow, plus the design and planning costs of Amara and Nissoko buildings. In all, capital spending in 2018-19 was £2,867,843. 'Restricted' income must be spent on what the donor has given it for.

FAQ's on Money and Management at Amaravati

Where can I see the full accounts?

The accounts are audited each year and are available at Companies House and the Charity Commission. Just search for 'The English Sangha Trust Ltd'.

Tell me about the trustees.

There are between five and nine trustees at any one time. All have a long-standing commitment to the practice, and to this sangha, and are qualified or experienced in the various aspects of managing organisations. The trustees address all the relevant worldly issues including contracting, Child Protection, fire safety, insurance, visas and immigration, pensions, personnel, Ageing Samanas, Health and Safety, data protection, legacies, volunteer law, planning etc. The finance managers are qualified in finance.

How does the Trust actually work?

It meets 4 times a year; twice at Cittaviveka and twice at Amaravati. In between a lot of business is carried on by email and other electronic systems. Increasingly, because we are quite an international and spread out group, the Trust links people into meetings via the internet. This is helped by the monastery now having fibre internet. The Trust considers papers and issues put to it by those responsible for the different areas and which are organised by the Trust Secretary.

What is the sangha's role in the EST?

The sangha offers the trustees and its advisors spiritual guidance and information about its needs. It owns the EST as a charitable company and up to twelve sangha members, drawn from Amaravati, Cittaviveka and previous senior sangha residents, hold a nominal share each. Up to six sangha members attend each EST meeting. Once a year there is an AGM and the sangha appoints the trustees and formally receives the accounts.

What is Amaravati Developments Ltd?

Amaravati Developments is a Company (not a charity) that was set up to manage the major building projects that are now underway. It does not receive donations or commissions for work except from the EST, and is wholly owned by the EST.

Does the EST waste money?

The EST trustees use a variety of means for achieving value-for-money in a spiritual context. We are strict about projects having a proper plan, not just for the work, but also the ongoing maintenance. The basic standards are set by the sangha but much of the work is equally for the benefit of the lay community. A way has to be found that includes living a simple life suitable for monastic practice, with all the complexity and opportunities of modern life.

If you have questions about money, or would like to comment on anything in this leaflet, please email the Trust Secretary, Caroline Leinster, on est@amaravati.org. There is also lots of information about The English Sangha Trust on the Charity Commission and Companies House websites.



Supporting Amaravati Financial and Management Information 2018 - 19

The English Sangha Trust Ltd

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Hemel Hempstead
HP1 3BZ UK

Charity No. 231310
Company No. 565499