

Parish Grants Update

Diocesan Synod, 14 October 2023

The bottom of the slide features several overlapping, wavy, light blue lines that sweep across the width of the image, creating a sense of movement and depth.

No need to take notes

[www.stalbansdiocese.org/parish support/
managing-your-parish/grants](http://www.stalbansdiocese.org/parish%20support/managing-your-parish/grants)

or search for Grants

A change in grant making

- Direct investment in parishes
- Making access easier
- Maximizing external funds
- New governance arrangements

The impact of Total Return

- Additional income from Diocesan investments
- Adopted from January 2022 – generating a surplus compared to 2022 of £642K
- Designated parish grants fund created
- Budgets in 2023 and 2024 for £500K per year from total return to be added to designated parish grants fund

The impact of external funds

- Maximizing income from external sources
- National church funding for church building repairs: £126K over 2023-25
- More national church funding hoped for in the net zero carbon area
- City Churches Fund – providing capital and some operational costs for churches within the Metropolitan Police Area

Major Parish Project Grants (NZC)

- Grants to support parish projects in the net zero carbon area
- Maximum of 20% of project costs or £25K whichever is lower
- Allocated on submission of applications to the Parish Grants Committee
- £315K has been allocated for major parish projects
- Source: Total Return Surplus in 2022

Mission Initiatives (Major Grants)

- Major grants for mission initiatives to support parishes to initiate new missional activity with the specific objectives of evangelism and discipleship and to enable the diocesan priority of growing younger and more diverse
- Possibly, but not limited to, salary contributions, mission focussed building developments etc.
- Generally be to a maximum of 75% of project costs or £20K (whichever is lower)

Mission Initiatives (Major Grants)

- Parishes will need to demonstrate that the project cannot proceed without this specific grant support.
- Grant support for up to three years is possible, but if the project work (including additional employment) is anticipated to continue beyond three years it will be necessary to demonstrate how this can be funded after the grant period expires.

Mission Initiatives (Major Grants)

- Allocated on submission of applications to the Parish Grants Committee
- £175K has been allocated for major parish projects
- Source: Total Return Surplus in 2022

Mission Initiatives (Small Grants)

- Grants of £250
 - grants to enable the launch, or re-launch missional initiatives
 - grants for warm spaces
 - grant to help support Ukrainian refugees and asylum seekers
- Administered by the Mission and Ministry department
- £42K has been allocated for major parish projects
- Source: Total Return Surplus in 2022

Church Repair Grants

- Support from various trust funds available for projects with permission in place under the faculty system
- Allocated on submission of applications to the Parish Grants Committee
- c£25K per annum from restricted Diocesan funds
- £126K over 2023-2025 from the Church Commissioners via the National Church Institutions (to be allocated via the Church Buildings Maintenance Officer)

Church Buildings

- Other national and local grants are also available. There is a separate page on the website dedicated to Grants for Church Buildings with links to other sources of grant income which include:
 - Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme
 - National Churches Trust
 - The John Palmer Organ Fund
- For assistance in accessing the grants available please contact the Historic Church Buildings Officer.

Grants for Clergy and Lay Wellbeing and Training

- There are a number of grants available for both wellbeing and training, as well as welfare grants for both clergy and parishoners.
- The Mission and Ministry Team have separate website pages detailing these and are always happy to help with any queries you may have.