

Application Guidelines For a Pastoral Aid Support Grant (Temporary Support)

Pastoral Aid Support Grants are considered at meetings of the Parish Shares and Support Committee.

These guidelines are written to assist parishes who are seeking a grant and deaneries which will be recommending grant applications to the Committee.

The diocesan budget includes an amount to meet requests for Pastoral Aid Support Grants. In order to make this possible, there is a small increase in parish share requests for all parishes. The amount available is limited and these notes describe the criteria to be borne in mind when applying.

Purpose

- To provide short-term support to parishes where there has been an exceptional factor that has led to a temporary parish share shortfall.
- Grants will not be available to maintain long-term shortfalls. Grants will normally be awarded for one year or, exceptionally, for two years.

Evaluation

The Parish Shares and Support Committee will expect that deanery committees will have considered information provided by applicant parishes, including:

- amount requested;
- could the request be met from grant making bodies;
- can others in the deanery help and if not, why not;
- what is the financial year-to-date position and year-end forecast;
- what financial commitments does the church have;
- what monies are received from rental or other income;
- how much is in non-restricted funds;
- where there any designated funds, what are those funds designated for;
- has the church conducted or is the church planning a stewardship campaign;
- what other steps have been taken to increase income and/or reduce costs.

Information which must have been submitted to the diocesan office to be considered alongside the application:

- Mission stats for current period
- Annual return of parish finance

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Recommendations

Deaneries should confirm that the objectives and evaluation criteria have been considered and should provide reasons for their recommendation or otherwise to the Committee.

Parishes need to complete the specific Pastoral Aid Support Grant Application Form which should be downloaded as a word document, completed and saved as a pdf with the name 'PASG Application XXX' (where XXX is the name of the parish). This pdf should then be submitted by email to both your local deanery and to grants@stalbans.anglican.org. Unlike applications for other grants, parishes do not need to complete the online Grant Application Details form as any grant awarded will not be paid to your parish but will be credited to your parish share account.

Applications will be considered at the next meeting of the Parish Shares and Support Committee - dates can be found on our website on the following page [Board of Finance, and its committees](#) but applications should be submitted no later than the deadline set by your individual Deanery, which will be significantly before the Committee meeting date.