The more we put in, the more we get out

The more we invest in our mission, the greater our return will be.

It can help to think of our mission investment as a cycle – if we increase any point in the diagram below - the number of clergy and ministers, the size of our worshiping communities, our parish income or common mission fund - we should see growth at all subsequent points.



But, we must remember that the reverse is also true – if we reduce any point in this cycle we will see a negative impact on all subsequent points. Lower parish income will result in a smaller common mission fund, meaning fewer clergy and ministers can be deployed, resulting in our worshipping communities declining.

'Do we want to be a Church that grows, or one that simply manages decline?'



GENEROSITY & SUSTAINABILITY

The Diocesan Budget Explained

'We are committed to resourcing Mission & Ministry where it is needed, not just where it can be afforded'

The National Context

It costs over £1bn a year to fund the whole Church of England.

- £260m a year comes from income earned on historic assets managed by the Church Commissioners, dioceses and parishes;
- A further £30m is raised through parish fees (weddings and funerals), local trading (hall hire etc.) and fundraising events;
- The remaining £720m comes from the generosity of our committed givers and donors across the country through personal giving and fundraising at a parish level.

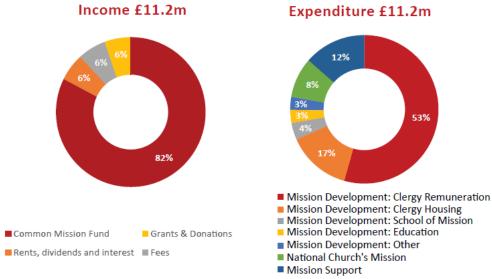


Proverbs 3:9

The Diocesan Budget

In the Diocese of Winchester we spend over £11m a year to fund our Common Mission. Since 2008 the Diocesan Budget has decreased by nearly £2m, in real terms, against inflation. This presents substantial challenges as we seek to grow God's Church and further his kingdom.

The following charts summarise where the money comes from and where it goes:



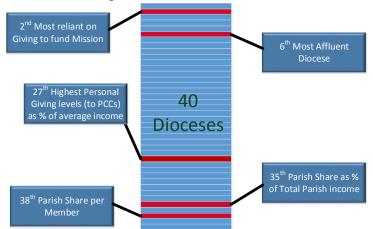
The vast majority of our income (82%) derives from the generosity of our parishes and benefices through parish share. We are hugely grateful for the commitment and sacrifice shown by so many across our diocesan community.

80% of our income is used in the area of **Mission Development**, primarily supporting the costs of our clergy and other ministers. A further **8% is** given to support the **national mission** and ministry of the Church of England. The remaining **12%** covers the costs associated with **supporting** our mission and ministry – such as the diocesan team, legal and governance costs, and parish support.

Sustainable & Reasonable

Given the pressures on all local parishes, we must constantly ensure that our budget is both sustainable and reasonable. Comparisons with other dioceses can help us. Out of the 40 dioceses (excluding Europe & Sodor & Man):

- ➤ We are the **2**nd most reliant on Parish Share income for funding our mission as we have very little historic income;
- Despite being the 6th most affluent Diocese, our average weekly giving levels (at £11.97 per planned giver) are only 27th as a percentage of average earnings;
- ➤ Our total Parish Share requests as a percentage of total Parish income is only **35**th; over 31% lower than the highest diocese;
- Our Average Parish Share per 'pew member' is 38th; nearly £175 a year less than the highest;



Taken together this shows that our diocesan expenditure is achievable and realistic, and that there is still potential for increased generosity. The National Church estimates, that if all givers in our diocese were giving 5% of their income to their church, (as recommended by General Synod) we would see an increase in giving of £10.4m a year.

'What would our churches and communities look like if our parishes had another £10.4million a year to invest in their mission?'