

Common Fund and the use of Church Commissioners' Grant Criteria

A Church Commissioners' grant is made available to dioceses to support mission in parishes which might not otherwise be able fully to contribute to the cost of delivery of that mission. It is proposed that Common Fund is allocated in 2011 with an increase in the Fixed Element to £12,000. That may present a small number of parishes with difficulty in meeting a higher Common Fund contribution. It is proposed that £100,000 of Church Commissioners' grant is withheld and allocated to poorer parishes to abate the demand on them.

Synod is invited to determine the criteria which might apply to any abatement. Some initial thoughts on criteria, which might be considered, are included here only to serve to stimulate the debate:

- The parish income factor should be less than 0.8
- The parish can evidence over the previous 5 years that it has made every attempt to meet its Common Fund asking in full and has consistently submitted the required data for the Common Fund calculation
- There is in place an annual stewardship programme
- The parish are fully engaged with Transforming Church, have stated objectives and time line for delivery, are implementing the recommendations and have submitted their report
- The parish have explored a partnership arrangement with another parish within the Diocese who may be able to assist in agreed and appropriate ways
- The parish are committed to running a Christian Basics course at least once a year.

This is by no means an exhaustive list but, as said earlier, is merely intended to stimulate thinking on the part of Synod and its membership as to an appropriate mix of factors which should define the criteria for abatement.

Phil Nunnerley
DBF Chair
21 October 2010

2010			Electors	A S A	Factor	Share	Fxd Allr	Formula	2011	
25408	2501	Bearwood St Mary	90	58	0.89	57.64	12,000	15,338	27,338	1,930
24480	2502	Blackheath St Paul	82	71	0.74	54.38	7,920	14,470	22,390	-2,090
11082	2503	Langley Ss John w Michael	42	31	0.61	19.96	7,200	5,312	12,512	1,430
12568	2505	Londonderry St Mark	36	35	0.54	18.86	9,600	5,018	14,618	2,050
8882	2506	Oldbury Christ Church	35	26	0.44	12.23	7,200	3,255	10,455	1,573
16095	2507	Rounds Green St James	31	40	0.66	24.92	4,080	6,632	10,712	-5,383
26668	2508	Rowley Regis St Giles	90	78	0.77	62.06	12,000	16,516	28,516	1,848
25612	2509	Smethwick The Resurrection	96	66	0.81	58.35	12,000	15,529	27,529	1,917
15499	2510	Smethwick St Matthew	39	29	0.65	20.23	6,000	5,383	11,383	-4,116
23848	2511	Smethwick Old Church	72	70	0.74	52.16	6,000	13,879	19,879	-3,969
30810	2513	Warley Woods St Hilda	102	86	0.86	76.61	12,000	20,387	32,387	1,577
220952		WARLEY DEANERY	713	590		457.39	96,000	121,720	217,720	-3,232