

12th September 2018

Letter to Incumbents and Parish Treasurers

"We pool the resources God gives us for the sake of the Kingdom. Generosity is the hallmark of our faith, a desire to help others, to see that none go without, to share what we have – parish share is giving."

Deanery Parish Share Presentation July 2017

Dear Colleagues,

The Parish Share allocation for the Deanery was received from the Diocesan Finance Office on 31st August, together with the proposed allocations for each Benefice. The message from the Diocesan Head of Finance, which is also appended to this letter for ease of reference, sets out clearly the way the DSF is applied and also includes a small chart summarising the Deanery allocation and the impact of the DSF at Deanery level.

The chart below shows the proposed allocation to each Benefice. It follows the Diocesan spreadsheet for the basic amount and then applies the Bias to the Poor element of the Diocesan Stipends Fund which, as in previous years, has simply been divided pro rata to the benefice allocation of Parish Share. The element allocated at the Inter-deanery Meeting is only shown at Deanery level at this stage. As a Deanery our final allocation is an increase of £13,453 on last year's allocation, reflecting the pressures on the Diocesan budget, not least from the cost of stipends, but is a smaller increase than last time.

The Deanery Standing Committee meets on 26th September so do let us know before then of any queries or concerns you have so that we can pick them up in finalising the allocations at that meeting. Parish Share will also be an item at our Deanery Synod meeting on 10th October as an opportunity for any further questions and discussion. Julie Ridgeway will be attending to participate in that item.

Additional detail is in the other documents distributed with this letter:

1. The spreadsheet from the Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) that sets out the calculation for the allocations
2. A copy of the letter from Bishop Rachel and Colin Rank (Chair of the DBF) following the Inter-Deanery meeting that discussed the use of a portion of the DSF, and the list of Deanery allocations that resulted.
3. Our earlier letter about the Deanery's bid to that meeting and the proposals for the use of our allocation. Don't forget to let us know if you are interested in taking part in that project

We hope that this information supplies all you need to enable your Benefice or Team to agree how your allocation should be distributed across your parishes and so inform your budget planning for the coming year. Please can you let us know as soon as possible, and no later than the end of November, what the agreed outcome is for your Benefice or Team so that we can pass these figures back to the Diocese for their budgetary planning and to monitor cash flow.

STROUD DEANERY PARISH SHARE 2019 FINAL ALLOCATIONS AFTER DIOCESAN STIPEND FUND APPLIED					
Benefice	Parish Share before DSF (Column AZ on DBF spreadsheet)	% of Deanery PS	Bias to the Poor element¹	Inter-deanery Meeting element	Final allocation
Bisley, Chalford, France Lynch and Oakridge and Bussage with Eastcombe	96,957	12	2741		94,216
The Stroudwater Team	161,412	20	4569		156,843
Minchinhampton with Box and Amberley	117,935	15	3428		114,507
Nailsworth with Shortwood, Horsley and Newington Bagpath with Kingscote	63,395	8	1828		61,567
The Beacon Benefice	110,052	14	3198		106,854
Stroud Team Ministry	163,487	21	4797		158,690
Woodchester, Brimscombe and Rodborough	78,637	10	2286		76,351
Deanery Total	791,874		22,847	25,000	744,028

With thanks for all your contributions to the work that support the mission and ministry of the whole Diocese and of this Deanery as a part of it.

Every blessing,



Revd Pat Freeth
Interim Area Dean



Margaret Sheather
Deanery Lay Chair

¹ Allocated pro rata to Parish Share percentage

Message from Diocesan Head of Finance

For the attention of Area Dean, Lay Chair, Parish Share Officer, Deanery Treasurer & Clergy responsible for benefices in the Stroud Deanery (Church Wardens where a parish is in vacancy)

In line with our parish share timeline, I attach the detailed calculations for parish share 2019 for the Stroud Deanery. Just to provide a recap of the calculations & key terms:-

Base allocation (column AD on the attached spreadsheet)

The base allocation of the GDBF 2019 budget is calculated with half being based upon clergy headcount & half on usual Sunday attendance. Where USA has changed significantly, the base allocation will also have changed significantly.

Moderation of annual increases (column AR on the attached spreadsheet)

To limit the increases in parish share contributions to each benefice to a maximum of 4% above the inflation rate used within the GDBF budget - 2.0%. (Previous year inflation rate was also 2%) This is the first call on the income from the Diocesan Stipends Fund. Column BS identifies the increases by benefice – this was something we thought would be helpful to include.

Allocation of Diocesan Stipends Fund (DSF) – not reflected on the detailed workings attached

Following approval at our Diocesan Synod in June 2016, the remainder of the Diocesan Stipends Fund income is allocated as follows:

- Half is allocated to each deanery based on population adjusted for Experian income indexing to provide a clear bias for the poor
- Half is allocated at an annual inter-deanery meeting held each summer as the final part of preparing the GDBF budget for Synod. For 2019, this allocation was made following discussions at the Inter Deanery meeting held on 19th June and Chaired by Bishop Rachel and Colin Rank (Chair of Gloucester Diocesan Board of Finance).

So in summary, parish share = base allocation less moderation less allocation of DSF. For your Deanery the figures can be summarised as follows:-

Stroud	2019	2018	2017	2016
	£	£	£	£
Parish share initial allocation after moderation (column AZ)	791,874	764,407	727,796	
Allocation of DSF – bias to the poor	(22,847)	(16,833)	(10,264)	
Allocation of DSF – as discussed at the Inter Deanery meeting held on 19 th June 2018	(25,000)	(17,000)	(10,927)	
Parish share allocation required from your Deanery	744,027	730,574	706,605	722,653

Incumbents & Church Wardens, your Deanery Team are your first point of contact for any queries on this parish share information. Please note each Deanery has absolute discretion on how the bias to the poor element of the Diocesan Stipends Fund monies are to be utilised.