



Parish Accounting System

Call for churches to join pilot

Introduction

The Diocese are aware that keeping track of day-to-day finances for many Parishes, and the additional burden of gift aid claims and annual accounts, is becoming an ever more onerous task. As treasurers resign filling these vacancies is also becoming difficult as the role can seem daunting. The Diocesan Finance team have therefore been looking at ways to assist and, together with a working group of parish and deanery treasurers, have reviewed certain financial software packages.

As a group we have selected a package offered by Data Developments which we would like to offer to churches within the Diocese for an initial trial. This package has been chosen for its ease of use and excellent value for money. We have secured funding for a pilot scheme from the Diocese and parishes are now able to opt to use the package free of charge until 31 March 2022.

Please follow the instructions at the end of this document if you want to become part of the test group.

Benefits

- Cloud accounting package – which is secure and can be accessed by multiple authorised individuals and is regularly updated
- Specifically designed to support financial management in churches
- Compatible with both Receipts and Payments and Accruals accounting methodologies (therefore suitable for all sizes of church)
- Easily generates reports e.g. Income and Expenditure, SOFA, balance sheet, Fund reports, an Annual Report and reports for donations and Gift Aid,
- Also produces and facilitates submission of the Return of Parish Finance directly to the Diocese at the click of a button
- MyGiving and MyFundAccounting can work individually or, if used together, will share information, so donations will be recorded into the accounts automatically, with no extra work required
- Submits Gift Aid and GASDS claims directly to the HMRC through MyGiving
- Integrates with many giving partners such as Parish Giving Scheme/Give a Little
- Enables Donate Now buttons to be added to your website for online donations
- Price includes technical support by phone and email plus online training modules, help videos and guides
- Support from Data Developments and peers makes handing over to new treasurers easier and facilitates succession planning
- Vacancy and illness cover across churches is easier (due to cloud storage and support available)
- Will enable benchmarking e.g. to compare costs, support financial management

How to get involved

There are two components of the programme available: MyFundAccounting and MyGiving, the latter containing the elements needed to administer donations and submit Gift Aid claims with ease.

This will be free to access until the end 31 March 2022 as part of the pilot and £5 for MyFundAccounting or £9 for both modules, per month, if you want to continue using it afterwards (although we are hoping the funding window will be able to be extended). All we ask in return for six months' free access is that you provide us with feedback to help inform our next steps.

To get involved, please register your interest via [this link](#) and the Data Developments team will be happy to get you up and running. If you have any questions, please email: support@datadevelopments.co.uk

Please note: the pilot is of Data Developments' cloud-based package. Churches interested in moving from the locally stored Data Developments package to the cloud-based one are still invited to take part in the pilot. A discounted desktop version is also available to those in areas with poor internet reception.

