

The National Church and Salisbury DBF

FAQ : The National Church is very wealthy – why can't it subsidise the dioceses?

There are 2 main bodies with which Salisbury DBF has a significant relationship:

- 1) The Church Commissioners & 2) The Archbishops' Council

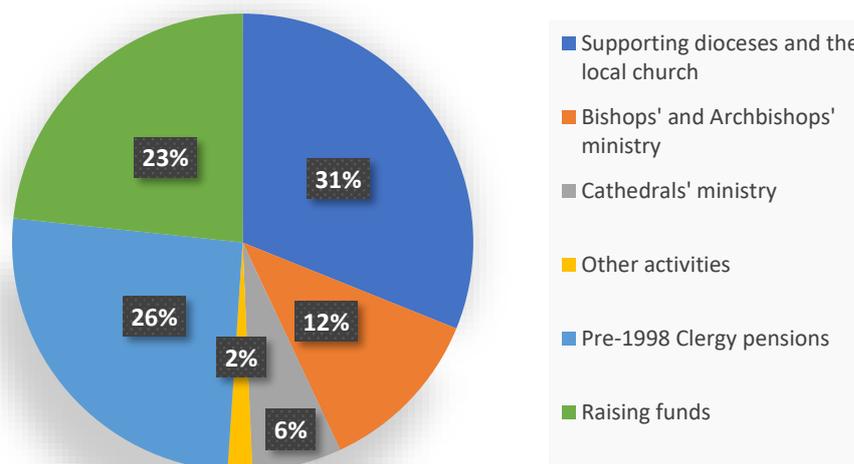
1) The Church Commissioners

- ❖ Founded in 1948 the Church Commissioners seek to support the work and mission of the Church of England.
- ❖ There are 33 Church Commissioners – 6 hold offices of state and the other 27 make up the Board of Governors, the main policy making body.
- ❖ There are 13 board members elected by General Synod or the cathedral deans. Other members are appointed by the Crown or the Archbishops for their expertise.

The Church Commissioners manage a £9.2b investment fund. They have been commended for management of this fund in terms of total return- capital growth and income generation.

The income generated from these investments is spent on..

Commissioners' expenditure 2020



Supporting dioceses and the local church 31% of the total

The amount spent on 2020 on supporting dioceses and the local church increased from £59.4m in 2019 to £99.1m in 2020. Money is made available to dioceses under the following schemes:

- ❖ Strategic Development – Salisbury awarded £1.2m for Rural Hope in 2017- a 5-year programme
- ❖ Strategic ministry- in support of curates' costs. Salisbury awarded £84k in 2021 and will qualify for some more funding in the future dependent on curates' numbers
- ❖ National giving strategy- Salisbury awarded £120k over 5 years from 2021
- ❖ Sustainability- Salisbury is applying for sustainability funding in September 2021. This is intended to provide some compensation for deficits caused by Covid. The relative affluence of our population is a potential barrier.
- ❖ Transformation funding- We are looking to apply for transformation funding in 2022-2023. So far not many awards have been made under this scheme.
- ❖ Other lower income funding schemes for which we do not qualify as our Balance Sheet is too strong

Bishops' Ministry 12% of the total

The commissioners pay stipends for the Bishops, Dean and two cathedral clergy in Salisbury; they are responsible for housing the Diocesan Bishop and provide grants for the office and working costs of the Bishops.

Conclusion to Church Commissioners funding

- ❖ The Church Commissioners budget, and what they choose to spend money on, is outside of our control. The Commissioners' ability to provide funding on a sustainable and growing basis both for the church of today and for future generations, is derived from the returns on their investments and therefore the amount they can pay to dioceses has finite limits. 31% of their expenditure in 2020 went to help dioceses and the Commissioners also pay for bishops and cathedral clergy as described above. The Commissioners aim to give their beneficiaries confidence about the funding available as far ahead as possible and confirm available funding for three-year periods - a 'triennium'. They set charitable distributions at a level that they believe is sustainable rather than being subject to significant fluctuations in market performance or other economic factors.
- ❖ It would be fair to say that Salisbury DBF is not a prime target for Commissioners' funding as the DBF is deemed to be more affluent than some others- particularly those in the North as we own historic assets that give us some options
- ❖ We do benefit from funding in the following areas:
 - ❖ Strategic Development Funding £1.25m over 5 years 2017-2022 – Rural Hope
 - ❖ Strategic Ministry Funding £84k in 2020 to help with the costs of curacies
 - ❖ National Giving Funding £120k over 5 years 2021-2025
- ❖ We are applying for Sustainability funding in September 2021 to offset the effects of Covid on our finances. While we may get some funding it is unlikely to be life-changing