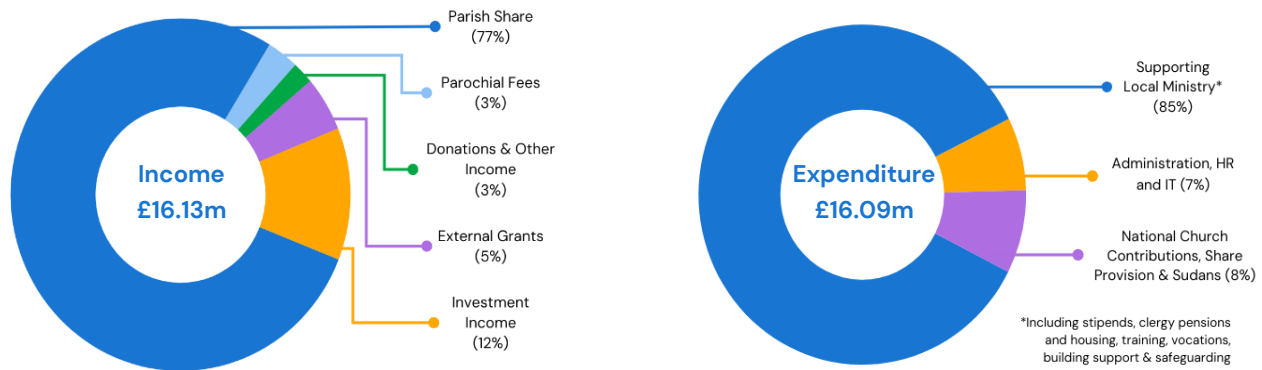


## What is the financial cost of being church? Our DBF budget for 2025

Share contributions are the most important part of our shared economy as the Diocese of Salisbury. Thank you for what you are able to raise and give in share – this enables us to Make Jesus Known and support one another in mission and ministry. Each independent PCC also has its own funds and budget. This paper explains where the money given in share and other income managed by the Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) is used.



### How the money is used:

#### Supporting Local Ministry (85%)

Our main focus and investment are the provision and support of ministry across all our communities in the diocese. This includes funding clergy stipends, pensions and housing as well as ongoing training, vocations, building support and safeguarding.

Providing a stipend for clergy, contributing to clergy pensions, paying for housing and the associated costs form the overwhelming proportion of our budget:

- Clergy stipends and pension contributions for 150 FTE (fulltime equivalent)<sup>1</sup> stipendiary clergy, 3 Archdeacons, and 20 curates<sup>2</sup> Posts: **£7,451,097**
- The costs of providing and maintaining 220 homes for our clergy (including 12 'House for Duty' posts): **£2,382,105**

The Diocese of Salisbury is fortunate to have one of the highest number of stipendiary clergy compared to other dioceses in England, our figure is 1.65 FTE per 10,000 of population, whilst the figure nationally is about 1.3 FTE. This is the number we hope to maintain if we are able to raise enough share and other

<sup>1</sup> For budgeting purposes where we are counting stipends paid, a priest with a house = 1, a priest with a House + Half Stipend = 0.5. This is not the same as when calculating deployment for Share purposes (see Share Guide).

<sup>2</sup> Curates do not count as part of the deployment to parishes for Share purposes as their costs are shared across the Diocese, but we budget for their stipends.

income.

We also budget for other costs of clergy and ministers:

- Vocations and training for lay ministers and clergy: **£848,096**
- Support to clergy training for the future: **£520,000**

### Supporting parishes in local ministry

Enabling the local church in mission and ministry is the purpose of the DBF as a whole, and our staff team provide a range of other services. Thank you for your recent feedback on these services through a survey which went out this summer. This shows both that they are widely valued and that we need to do more to ensure we provide a consistent level of response.

What are these services and what do we spend on them?

- Church buildings support: **£372,884**
- Safeguarding: **£342,520**
- Giving, fundraising, trusts and glebe: **£135,835\***
- Support for the governance and administration of the church from Emmaus House and our area offices: **£612,447**
- Legal support by the Registrars to clergy and parishes: **£205,000**
- Communications, including Grapevine and other e-bulletins and support with media: **£147,885\***
- The Board of Education, supporting our church schools: **£347,000**
- The programme office that is enabling the implementation of the vision and strategy, fully funded by the national church: **£216,711**
- Providing seed corn funding to parishes through grants from the Aldhelm fund: **£100,000**
- The upkeep of Milton Abbey that is partially grant-funded: **£45,200**

\* Cost is partially externally-funded

### Diocesan Office, HR, IT (7%)

As a mid-sized charity and company, the DBF has other costs which covers finance, the diocesan office, IT and HR; in the 2025 budget these total **£1,071,109**

This is 7% which is lower than the average administration costs of a charity.

The Cathedral and the Channel Islands are financially independent.

### National Church and Share Provision (8%)

- As part of the national Church of England we contribute to the work of the central teams, in addition to clergy training: **£523,000**
- A total of **£500,000** pays for share discounts and support to communities in particular need.
- Our international solidarity includes the Sudans, **£160,000** will be fully funded through donations.
- We are winding down the fully-owned subsidiary that have previously provided surveying and architect services to our schools **£113,865**

### Income – Other income

As per the income pie chart, Share makes up by far the largest portion of our income. But we are also able

to support the costs of being the Church by drawing on other income such as historic assets and current grants.

- Glebe land has been managed at a diocesan level since the 1970s; income from this mainly agricultural land is managed for us by Strutt Parker. We also have regular income from the investments and we are fortunate to have a group of volunteer advisers on investment with experience of working in this sector. Together with income from renting empty houses, in 2025 we budget **£1,891,115** income from these sources.
- The national church and other grant making bodies offer a range of support and we access this whenever we can to support the work of the local church. This money is for specific restricted things like working on church buildings, work with young people and support to ministry. We are also now receiving money to help develop our vision and strategy with skills like data management. In 2025 we budget **£746,000** for these 'third party' forms of support and we plan to grow this income throughout the year.
- In total, other incomes for 2025 are **£2,664,174**
- And the total expenditure is **£16,128,084**

Which means that the request for share in 2025 is **£12,566,000**

Now that the Bishop's Council have decided to close the gap between income and expenditure we have entered a four-year transition period – during this time we will be seeking to support you to increase income while also reduce expenditure wherever we can. This will enable us to finance the future sustainably.

If you would like further support on giving and stewardship do contact our Giving Adviser Anna Hardy via email [anna.hardy@salisbury.anglican.org](mailto:anna.hardy@salisbury.anglican.org)

The detailed figures of the agreed budget are available on the Finance section of the website [www.salisbury.anglican.org](http://www.salisbury.anglican.org)