

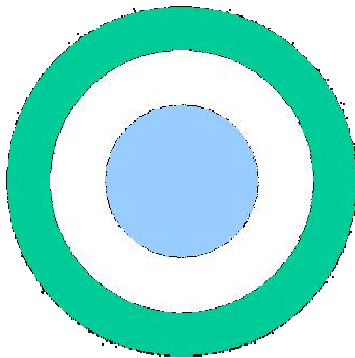


Funding Guides



FUNDING GUIDE 16 : Funding for Fresh Expressions

This series of funding guides are intended to help churches through the funding process, whatever the type of project they are engaged with. However, many of the major funders for capital works on church buildings will not fund mission or Fresh Expression projects. This guide seeks to provide some guidance to those running Fresh Expressions projects on potential sources of funding.



In general, you will find that the majority of funding will come locally; from parishes and churches in the area of the Fresh Expression, and from individuals who catch the vision and are supportive. Only gradually should you widen the net geographically as you seek funding, as the further away a funder is, the less likely you are to get support for your project.

Anglican Grants for 'Fresh Expressions' Projects

Many dioceses have grant-making programmes running which support parishes establish new mission projects or fresh

expressions. Much of the funding for this comes from the Church Commissioners, who have allocated £10 million to dioceses to resource local mission opportunities over the past three years.

Parishes looking for additional support should contact their diocese in the first instance to establish whether they offer a grant scheme.

Methodist Grants for 'Fresh Expressions' Projects

Grants are available from a number of sources within Methodism for local projects of ministry and mission, including the development of 'Fresh Expressions' work.

For local churches and circuits, the first source of potential grants is the **Circuit Advance Fund (CAF)**. Since the 'Releasing Resources for Mission' report in 2005, the purposes of the CAF have been widened to enable circuits to draw grants for ministry projects. There is no limit on the amount a circuit can draw as a ministry grant, having taken other committed funds into account, and this can be applied for using schedule 16 (approved by the District). This is over and above the £10k p.a. which a circuit can draw using schedule 13a for 'any Methodist purpose'.

The next source of grants is the **District Advance Fund (DAF)**. The DAF receives income from levies on CAF's as well as a proportion of the net levies received by the Connexional Advance and Priority Fund* (CAPF). In 2007, the proportion of CAPF distributed to districts was increased to 50%, making DAF's the primary source for grants for local projects. Enquiries as to how and when to apply for DAF grants should be addressed to your District Chair or Grants Officer.

Beyond District grants, **connexional grants** may be available towards Fresh Expressions projects or other ministry and mission projects from a variety of funds. Connexional grant

making is currently undergoing a review and so it is not yet clear what the precise criteria will be from September 2008, but it is likely that grants will only normally be for projects which have some connexional significance (i.e. an impact wider than the local Circuit or District).

Grants for Fresh Expressions - Property grants and external sources

The Methodist Church has two main sources of funding for property projects to apply for - the **Fund for Property** and the **Connexional Advance & Priority Fund***. Grants made from the Fund for Property are totally discretionary. You will need to tell the Resourcing Mission Office why you think the scheme should attract support from this fund - how you have identified the need for the project / how will a Fund for Property grant make a real difference to your scheme etc.

Connexional Priority Fund (*formerly the Connexional Advance and Priority Fund*) grants are available to churches who are raising a minimum of £1,000 per member from local effort fundraising towards their project. The calculation for the grant is based on three quarters of the calculation for a Joseph Rank Trust grant, whether or not a grant from The Joseph Rank Trust is being obtained.

The Joseph Rank Trust is a grant making body entirely independent of the Methodist Church although they request that all applications for grant aid for property schemes be submitted by The Methodist Property Office, except for applications on behalf of churches in the former London Districts which are submitted by the London Committee.

(Details of the grant-making criteria for the Joseph Rank Trust, Fund for Property and Connexional Priority Fund are available on the Methodist Church website).

External Funding

The Resourcing Mission Office provides information and guidance to Churches and Circuits on external sources of funding for both property and personnel projects. They offer a funding search service which is tailored to your project's location and outcomes. The Active Faith Pack (available on the Methodist Church website) provides a good introduction to finding external funding for community projects and gives some initial guidance on putting together business plans and making applications as well as providing links to contact details for local sources of advice and information.

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These Funding Guides have been developed by a "Good Practice" group of the National Stewardship Committee of the Church of England and are intended to support your church's fundraising. They are available on-line at www.parishresources.org.uk/funding or at www.churchcare.co.uk/funding.php