

DISTRICT ADVANCE FUND – APPLICATION GUIDANCE NOTES

Applications for requests for grants are received and considered by the District Grants Committee (see Synod Directory for details) who report to Synod and the District Policy Committee.

Purpose of the Fund

The Committee will adhere to the following principles:

- sustain ministry in areas where local resources are fully stretched
- encourage new initiatives in or between circuits
- respond to particular opportunities for mission in partnership with others

The committee takes into consideration the Connexional Grants Policy, which emphasises:

- engaging the unchurched
- exploring types of "emerging church" (i.e. new ways of being a church)
- mission with young adults and 25-40 age group.

Selection Criteria - reaching new people

Each application will be considered on its merits but preference will be given to those projects that:

- demonstrate potential for self-sustaining, longer term financial viability
- have measurable objectives
- are part of a larger vision and/or business plan
- have an ecumenical dimension
- have included all relevant papers
- are restricted to mission and ministry projects

Important information

Grant applications must be for new work. Applications cannot be considered for projects that have already started.

Grants from the Fund are limited to £20,000 per case per year and should be for no more than three years. Where the application is for a number of years, the Committee would normally expect to see the grant request reducing over that period. Some application types have a lower maximum limit, for further details please see relevant application form.

GRANT APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Please use this checklist before you send your application (Please tick each box):

- I have read the District Advance Fund Grants Policy terms and conditions.**
A copy can be found on the District web site under Governance and Policy
- I have checked the District web site to find out the last dates for applications.**
The Grants Committee normally meets three times a year and applications need to be with the District Grants Officer no later than three weeks before the Committee meeting.
- I have fully completed all Sections on the form.**
- I have included all extra information as requested.**
See end of application form for details
- Lay Worker - I have included report forms from the: District Lay Employment Secretary and the District Resourcing Mission Enabler.**
- Property Projects - I have consulted: The District Property Secretary; The Connexional Conservation Officer. (if applicable)**

Once you are satisfied that your application is complete then send it electronically to the District Grants Officer – Joan Ryan at joan.ryan@hotmail.co.uk

NOTE: All grants are paid by electronic bank transfer and will be paid in a timely manner. Ongoing funding for multi-year grants is normally paid at the beginning of each Connexional year.



“The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the Gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission, in service and practical caring”