

Canterbury Diocesan Board of Finance

Financial plan 2023 - 2030

Diocesan Synod have requested a financial plan be prepared to 2030.

The first edition of the Flourishing and Sustainable Future strategy document adopted by Diocesan Synod in July 2021 emerged from our season of listening and discernment in Autumn 2020. An update to the strategy was published in September 2022. Both documents are available on the diocesan website. The first edition followed a period of review of the financial position and activities of the diocese, in both its narrow sense as the Canterbury Diocesan Board of Finance and in its wider sense encompassing all parishes, church schools and the substantial number of other activities within the diocese.

The Flourishing and Sustainable Future identified deaneries as one of the key drivers of change and the deanery plans continue to develop, some more effectively than others. We continue to develop our strategic themes through the three broad outcomes presented at Synod in March 2023 - to double the number of young people in our churches across the diocese, to create 200 new Christian Communities and every parish, benefice and deanery showing signs of revitalisation (this one yet to be agreed). We will access national funding where relevant and available and we are also committed to achieving carbon net zero by 2030.

The attached spreadsheet shows how the free reserves of Canterbury Diocesan Board of Finance are predicted to fall away. Following the successful implementation over time of our strategy, it is reasonable to assume that Parish Share shortfalls will continue, but at decreasing levels, and it is likely that a small on-going deficit will remain due to parish reorganisations and unexpected challenges which parishes may face. As our reserves policy is to maintain free reserves of between £1.4m and £1.7m (2023) the fall in free reserves will need to be met from the sale of tangible fixed assets which may include the sale of glebe, or other land, for housing development. Investment funds relate mainly to endowment, restricted and designated funds.

Through our close working relationships with the national church institutions, we expect significant grant funds to be available to fund our growth through the Diocesan Investment Programme stream of the national churches SMMI (Strategic Mission and Ministry Investment) Fund. However, we must be clear that it is the diocese investing in this growth and they are our growth plans. We must also be clear that the diocese is all of us in its fullest sense as the total economy of the diocese consists of parish, diocesan and those national church funds available to us.

The National Church through these grants for growing numbers of people in our churches expects numbers to start to increase from 2027 and financial growth to follow, our modelling agrees with that.

Doug Gibb
Finance Director
7 June 2023

**Canterbury Diocesan Board of Finance Group
Financial Plan 2023-2030 at constant prices**

	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25	Dec-26	Dec-27	Dec-28	Dec-29	Dec-30
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
FIXED ASSETS									
Tangible fixed assets	88,094	88,094	88,094	88,094	88,094	88,094	88,094	88,094	88,094
Investments	8,019	8,019	8,019	8,019	8,019	8,019	8,019	8,019	8,019
	96,113	96,113	96,113	96,113	96,113	96,113	96,113	96,113	96,113
CURRENT ASSETS									
Debtors	1,571	1,571	1,571	1,571	1,571	1,571	1,571	1,571	1,571
Cash	7,870	7,170	6,470	5,920	5,570	5,370	5,270	5,170	5,070
	9,441	8,741	8,041	7,491	7,141	6,941	6,841	6,741	6,641
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	(2,756)	(2,756)	(2,756)	(2,756)	(2,756)	(2,756)	(2,756)	(2,756)	(2,756)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	6,685	5,985	5,285	4,735	4,385	4,185	4,085	3,985	3,885
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	102,798	102,098	101,398	100,848	100,498	100,298	100,198	100,098	99,998
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year									
Other creditors	(778)	(778)	(778)	(778)	(778)	(778)	(778)	(778)	(778)
NET ASSETS	102,020	101,320	100,620	100,070	99,720	99,520	99,420	99,320	99,220
FUNDS									
Endowment - benefice properties	70,889	70,890	70,891	70,892	70,893	70,894	70,895	70,896	70,897
Endowment - other	7,260	7,259	7,258	7,257	7,256	7,255	7,254	7,253	7,252
Restricted	2,318	2,318	2,318	2,318	2,318	2,318	2,318	2,318	2,318
Unrestricted									
Designated - tangible fixed assets	14,809	14,809	14,809	14,809	14,809	14,809	14,809	14,809	14,809
Designated - other	1,350	1,350	1,350	1,350	1,350	1,350	1,350	1,350	1,350
General - tangible fixed assets	2,396	2,396	2,396	2,396	2,396	2,396	2,396	2,396	2,396
General - free reserves (CDBF legal entity)	2,886	2,186	1,486	936	586	386	286	186	86
Non-charitable trading funds (subsidiaries)	112	112	112	112	112	112	112	112	112
TOTAL FUNDS	102,020	101,320	100,620	100,070	99,720	99,520	99,420	99,320	99,220
Parish Share shortfall		700	700	550	350	200	100	100	100