

Appendix to Paper E Mar 19 - Ministry & Mission Formula Review – Final Report

Thames North Synod The Ministry and Mission Fund Formula

A formula is used to share out the agreed total the Synod will contribute to the national Ministry and Mission Fund. It is only possible to calculate an individual church's share once the membership and the income of all the churches is known. These figures are calculated in the summer of each year for the following year, from the accounts for the previous financial year.

Membership

One-fifth, of the agreed target will be shared amongst the churches on the basis of the number of members, as included on the annual returns at 31st December. Therefore, a fifth of our agreed target will be divided by the total number of members in the Synod and that amount will then be multiplied by the number of members in a particular church to give that church's amount

The remaining four-fifths of the Synod's target will be shared amongst the churches according to their unrestricted income.

Investment Income (including Bank and Building Society Interest)

On any investment income (whether it is retained by the Trustees or not) which a church receives, a contribution of 60% will be included.

Property Rent

The income received by the church from "commercial" rents from property including manses or of church premises where the tenant is responsible for the cost of heat and light, a contribution of 50% will be included.

Hall Letting Income

The total amount received by a church for letting its premises, recognising there are increased costs incurred in hiring out church premises a contribution of 22% of the amount received for the hiring of the premises is included.

General Income

The amount still needed to enable the Synod to meet its target is shared amongst the churches on the basis of their general income for the year. General income is all amounts received by a local church which the Church Meeting has the discretion to spend or designate. It does not, therefore, include restricted funds, moneys received in special collections, grants received for a particular project etc. The contribution from general income is not calculated by a fixed percentage; but each church is asked to contribute the same ratio of their general income to meet the balance of the Synod's target - it is anticipated that this will be in the region of 33%.

An individual church's contribution, therefore, is the addition of its share from each of the categories: membership, investment income, property rent, hall lettings and general income.

Legacies are excluded from the calculation of the requested amount but a church is encouraged to give at least 10% of any unrestricted legacy received to the Ministry and Mission Fund in addition to the amount requested.

Churches in a Local Ecumenical Partnership - where the minister is provided by the United Reformed Church the above formula will be used and a 10% reduction will be made recognising a contribution should be made to the other denomination to arrive at the church's requested contribution. Where the minister is provided by another denomination the amount requested from the church will be the formula amount less 90% so a contribution is still made by the church to the mission element of the M&M Fund.