
Budget for 2023 and estimates for 2024 to 2027

1. The draft budget was considered by the Finance Committee at its meeting in July and is generally in line with what was forecast when preparing the 2022 budget. It was approved by the meeting of Synod Trust on 15th September. As in recent years the budget is presented with summary estimates of the likely future budgets for the succeeding 4 years.
2. The budget for 2023 envisages a deficit of £2,375,990 (before grant funding), which includes a £150,000 contingency. However, it will be noted that if no provision is included for selling property, there is planned expenditure of about £2,844,490 against estimated income of about £468,500
3. We have also included £1,500,000 in 2023 to fund the Synod's grants and loan schemes.
4. A £1,500,000 provision has been made for the second instalment of our contribution to meeting the deficit on the Ministers' Pension Fund and an increased amount has been budgeted for office rental to reflect the need for improvements to our current accommodation.
5. A new item this year is the inclusion of £50,000 for green surveys of church buildings to help congregations identify ways to reduce their carbon footprint.
6. As in recent years the usual budget holders were invited to provide information on their likely requirements. Few changes were sought, and these have been incorporated into the budget. Overall, excluding the proposed pension fund contribution, the budget has an expenditure decrease of about £290,000 from the previous year. Small reductions have been made in other budgets where experience suggests that the amount sought is not normally spent.
7. For 2023 the budget has been set out as a single stream in descending order of cost. However, it should be again be noted that all our predictable income is used up before reaching the second line of the budget. A copy of the budget for 2023 is set out at Appendix 1 to this paper. A summary of total spend by expenditure category appears on Page 2.
8. As previously, we are unlikely ever to be able to break even without the income from the sale of redundant church buildings.

Recommendation

Synod Together is asked to endorse the recommended Synod 2023 budget for the General Purposes Fund.

John Denison
Synod Treasurer
September 2022

Budget 2023

2021	2022	Category	Task	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Draft Outturn	Budget	(see end)		Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
			Income					
-5,326,500	-200,000		Sale of Properties	-200,000				
-3,505	-1,000		Grants & Donation Income	-1,000				
-77,103	0		Cash from Closed churches	0				
-45,167	-7,500		Other Income	-7,500				
-442,818	-260,000		Investment Income	-260,000				
-£5,895,093	-£468,500		Total Income	-£468,500	-£468,500	-£468,500	-£468,500	-£468,500

Budget 2023

2021	2022	Category	Task	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Draft Outturn	Budget	(see end)		Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
			Expenditure					
2,000,000	2,000,000	G	Ministers Pension Fund Contribution	1,500,000				
289,358	404,000	H	Synod Staffing Costs	414,000				
12,090	250,000	B	Annual & Emergency Repair Grants	250,000				
18,000	200,000	E	Synod rent & Hire of Rooms	200,000				
	25,000	I	Budget Contingency (inc Inflation)	150,000				
26,469	53,900	E	Office Running Expenses	53,900				
		F	Green Surveys	50,000				
230,527	40,000	F	Property expenses	40,000				
35,000	35,000	G	Inter-Synod Resource Sharing	35,000				
		F	Quinquennial Surveys	25,000				
12,290	23,350	C	In-service Training & Grants	23,350				
1,338	20,850	C	Other training and Candidates Costs	20,850				
10,092	20,000	E	Legal Fees	20,000				
2,700	11,835	A	Ecumenical Subscriptions	12,190				
329	11,500	D	Synod Committees & Synod Together	11,500				
	9,400	E	Audit Fees	9,400				
2,575	5,400	A	World, Urban and Synod Ministry Support	5,400				
487	5,000	C	Youth & Children's Work Budget	5,000				
	5,000	D	General Assembly Costs	5,000				
1,521	4,400	D	Synod Officer expenses	4,400				
2,500	4,000	E	Investment Management Costs	4,000				
	3,500	C	Staff & Trustee Training	3,500				
	2,000	A	Church & Society & World Mission	2,000				
£2,645,276	£3,134,135		Expenditure	£2,844,490	£1,202,856	£1,637,233	£1,648,621	£1,662,020
-£3,249,817	£2,665,635		Budget Deficit	£2,375,990	£734,356	£1,168,733	£1,180,121	£1,193,520
£214,960	£1,000,000	J	Building Grant Programme	750,000	750,000			
£176,269	£1,000,000	J	Mission Grant Programme	750,000	750,000			
-£2,858,588	£4,665,635		Required from Reserves	£3,875,990	£2,234,356	£1,168,733	£1,180,121	£1,193,520

A	Grants for general purposes	19,590
B	Annual & Emergency Repair Grants	250,000
C	Training	52,700
D	Synod and Committee Costs	20,900
E	Synod Office costs	287,300
F	Property costs	115,000
G	Costs related to the wider URC	1,535,000
H	Staff costs	414,000
I	Contingency	150,000
J	Grant Programme	1,500,000
	TOTAL	£4,344,490