

Southwell and Nottingham Diocesan Board of Finance

Summary of Diocesan accounts for 2023



‘For God, who said “Let light shine out of darkness” made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God’s glory displayed in the face of Christ’.

2 Corinthians 4:6

Reflecting on 2023, with the escalation of conflict in Israel and Gaza, as well as the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, and tensions elsewhere we continued to see a world that is not at peace with itself. Closer to home, our national life has been challenged by an ongoing cost-of-living crisis and heightened rates of inflation, bringing new levels of hardship and anxiety to many. And locally too, towards the end of the year, storms caused the River Trent to break its banks and flood land and homes across Nottinghamshire.

It is surely against this background of conflict, despondency and uncertainty that as disciples of Christ, we are called to evermore firmly fix our eyes on the Lord and to find in him our living hope, shining out evermore brightly as a beacon of light and love in our lives and in our land.

Indeed, as we look ahead to 2030 and beyond, our refreshed Diocesan Vision is to see **Living Hope for the City, Towns and Villages of Nottinghamshire and beyond**. Whilst this is a vision for the future, as I reflect upon this past year, I would like to highlight three of the many points of encouragement there have been for me, seeing God’s glory displayed across the rich diversity of contexts which make up the diocese:

The monthly **Diocesan Days of Prayer** continued to be a source of refreshment and encouragement touching hundreds of lives throughout 2023, and as the diocesan leadership team shared in prayer gatherings throughout the diocese. I enjoyed a particularly memorable morning in Selston church with a group of primary school children who helped to lead and inspire our prayers in fresh ways. Their contagious enthusiasm, curiosity and openness to discover more about prayer as an opportunity to be in relationship with God certainly stirred and touched the more ‘regular’ church goers among us! In the evenings, groups gathered in Southwell and encountered God through different styles of worship – some attending both traditional evensong in the Minster and then a more contemporary worship gathering, during which it was a privilege to hear stories of God at work in many different places and people across the diocese. It was a joy to host several hundred over supper as part of those evenings too. The Nottingham City Prayer meetings, that have been drawing people together from across the city for a number of years now, continues to be a significant expression of partnership and shared mission with churches from many denominations. There have been many surprising and heartening answers to prayer too.

Throughout 2023, I also had the privilege of preaching and leading across a number of our rural parishes, experiencing first-hand the warmth and kindness of these communities. I was particularly struck by the energy, commitment and vision as I met with a group of lay leaders and head teachers from some of our

rural parishes in the Bassetlaw and Bawtry deanery. Though their churches were in vacancy, lay leaders from several churches had initiated **new partnerships with their local schools**, and the increasing number of young people in some villages hearing the good news of Christ and connecting with after school groups led by these teams was truly inspiring. It highlighted afresh the engagement of and possibilities for rural mission, and the need to continue to explore how we might best develop local lay leadership and support closer relationships with respective local schools.

During Petertide 2023, the sense of joy and celebration at the service for the **Ordination of Deacons** in Southwell Minister was tremendous. Fifteen candidates who had grown up as far away as Australia, Nigeria and Hong Kong, and as close to home as Nottingham and Worksop, had each individually heard and been obedient to God's gracious call to ordained ministry and are now serving across the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham. The service of **Licensing for our Licensed Lay Ministers** was also powerful and deeply moving, as we affirmed specific callings to serve in youth and children's work alongside the role of Reader. It is wonderful to see whom God is calling to join us as we trust in his unfailing provision for the journey ahead.

As I give thanks for all the ways in which God continues to bless us, I am of course mindful that there are also challenges before us. We are continually aware of the need to focus on developing the gifts of those who can take on key roles of leadership and responsibility in our churches, especially with church wardens, treasurers and PCC members. There are also the ongoing financial resource challenges. The 2024 budget includes a deficit of £600k; whilst this reflects the necessary investment required for further growth, it is clearly not a sustainable position for the longer term if we are to continue our firm commitment not to reduce stipendiary numbers. It is hugely encouraging to see how the majority of parishes remain highly committed to meeting Parish Share alongside funding other aspects of their local ministry.

I remain immensely grateful for all that our parishes continue to do as we partner in sharing the gospel, for your prayers, and for your generous, and in some places sacrificial, giving. It is my prayer for each of us that as we step into this new season of vision and growth, we will indeed see the living hope of Christ flowing outwards to transform every part of our diocese.

With every blessing

A handwritten signature in cursive script, starting with a small cross symbol followed by the name 'Paul'. The signature is written in dark ink and has a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

The Rt Revd Paul Williams
Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham

ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE YEAR

2023 has been a year of fresh vision, growth and transformation across our Diocese.

Vision

During the year we finalised the refresh of the diocesan strategic vision and mission, through a prayerful process of discernment and consultation across the Diocese. This renewed mission and calling is now summarised as 'Growing Disciples of Christ with Compassion, Confidence and Courage' and is paired with a compelling vision of 'Living Hope for the city, town and villages of Nottinghamshire and beyond'. To deliver on this vision and mission, 7 key areas of focus have been identified as Inspiring Worship, Reaching Younger, Enhancing Diversity, Growing Leaders, Enabling Commitment, Encouraging Generosity, and Nurturing Prayer. This will be shared across the Diocese in Spring 2024 through a series of events and resources and will help to inspire and inform our work over the coming years.

Growth

We are now journeying with over 50 parishes through intentional, focused work that has been accelerated and resourced through Strategic Development Funding (SDF). We are grateful to the national church for the support they have provided through four SDF bids to help reverse the downward trend in church attendance and revitalise churches throughout the Diocese. Through SDF4, there have been 5 youth hubs (all workers appointed), 10 Children and Family flagship churches (5 existing / 5 new – all workers appointed) and a further 25 churches in receipt of funding with the majority appointing Children and Family and Youth workers. This has helped to reach 203 new youth against a target of 125, and 315 new children against a target of 250 by end of 2023. We have also seen an encouraging increase in the number of children, families and youth ministry volunteers, with 175 across our Diocese engaging with these activities.

SDF3 has specifically funded several new initiatives, including revitalising 4 churches that have since seen a total increase of 276 in attendance across services, with 10 additional New Worshipping Communities (NWC) created. As part of this funding, 12 Churches have also accessed the NWC Fund which has helped to establish 'Connect' initiatives in local schools, new youth and family services and also a Spanish speaking congregation in the city centre. Capacity building posts funding has also enabled 10 new roles to be developed to support particular areas of ministry and leadership across our churches, including several where services had ceased.

Alongside growth at a local level, the Discipleship and Ministry team have continued to train and develop lay and ordained ministers. This includes 14 new Licensed Lay Ministers (LLM) in 2023, (adding to a total of 49 under the new scheme) as well as the ordination of 15 deacons.

The internship scheme continues to operate as a key leadership development pipeline. This year saw 18 first year interns at 12 churches across the Diocese, with 7 of them progressing to either the year 2 programme or church ministry roles in our Diocese. In July 2023, 4 people completed the first iteration of the year 2 programme, of whom 3 are now in church ministry roles. It continues to be an exciting time of growth for young leaders in our Diocese.

Transformation

The Diocese Days of Prayer have continued through the year, providing opportunity for prayer commitment and reflection across the Diocese. These have taken place monthly on the

second Thursday and have each concluded at Southwell Minster for Evensong and a light supper at Bishop's Manor, followed by contemporary worship in the State Chamber. These prayer days have helped to model the importance of prayer in the life of the Diocese.

As part of our environmental goals and objectives, our Diocesan Environment Officer (DEO) has furthered works with parishes throughout 2023. This has helped parishes develop an Action Plan (which was approved by Diocesan Synod in October 2023) to work towards the national Church of England target of being net zero by 2030. 106 churches are now registered as Eco Churches with A Rocha UK with 11 holding silver status and 43 bronze. Work continues within the Property Team to improve the energy efficiency of clergy housing following the Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) review of clergy property in 2023.

The Planned Giving Team has assisted more than 50 churches over the past year with generous giving through the provision of digital giving machines. This has been enabled, through funding from the national church, and has helped set the Diocese on course to reach its six-monthly target from June-December 2023 of £50,000.

Our social transformation partnerships have also continued into this year with Citizens UK, Refugee Roots and Transforming Notts Together (TNT). The aim of these partnerships is to equip and support for local churches as their members seek to grow in practical discipleship, through grief cafes, befriending, art classes, signposting, women's support, and English conversation classes. These continue to provide key points of connection and transformation across our communities.

2023 saw the restructuring of the Safeguarding team following Past Cases Review 2, with time now allocated for the Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (ADSA) to build on the resources for those who have lived experience of trauma. The restructure has also increased time for parish support, with a new part time post for a parish support officer. Alongside this, the team have purchased two software packages for parishes to help record and evidence their compliance to the national standards in safeguarding. The team have also joined National Casework Management System so that all records are now stored consistently.

The diocesan Education Team have continued to provide their blend of professional, pastoral, and spiritual support to our 73 church schools reaching over 20,000 children and adults as well as supporting a range of leaders of RE, headteachers, school chaplains and governors. During the year, they have run a wide range of training and conferences and have continued to work with our five church Multi Academy Trusts (MATs). There has been a focus on teaching young people how to lead worship. This dovetails with a strong emphasis on empowering young people to lead as courageous advocates. This year saw the beginning of a new, inspirational type of conference, called 'Listen Up', where all the speakers and worship leaders are young people – no adult speakers allowed.

A reconstituted Diocesan Board of Education (DBE) began its work in January 2023. One of the priorities is to support a greater alignment between the Diocesan Vision and the amazing potential that is nurtured in our schools. This includes the creation of stronger discipleship pathways between church and school.

To support these areas of transformation and development, our digital Learning Hub has continued to expand and now provides courses and resources in discipleship, safeguarding, education and PCC/treasury. The platform now has a total of 1,719 account users.

FUTURE PLANS

In 2024 the refreshed diocesan Vision & Strategy will be launched widely and embedded in parishes throughout the year. This will be achieved through a refreshed communication plan, which will have a particular focus on sharing and celebrating stories of growing disciples from across the Diocese.

To help accelerate and resource the refreshed vision, the Diocese is planning to submit a significant Diocesan Investment Programme (DIP) application to the new Strategic Mission and Ministry Investment Board (SMMIB). This Board has been set up to enable the strategic priorities and the bold outcomes of the Church of England's Vision and Strategy for the 2020s. We believe that following our experience and learnings in recent years, we are well placed to apply for significant funding and strategic support. The result of this application will help resource and impact the Diocese over the coming years.

In keeping with the new 7 areas of focus from the refreshed vision, generous giving will continue to be a key aspect of development, with the second phase of the rollout of Free Digital Giving devices, supported by the National Church. The appointment in 2023 of our Digital Giving Advisor will mean we continue to assist all parishes in ensuring their online giving options are fit for purpose.

We will continue to work towards cutting our carbon footprint and promote Eco Church to further our understanding of caring for creation as central to whole life discipleship. The Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) will continue its important work to maintain and develop our churches to meet their missional priorities. We aspire to achieve Eco- Diocese Silver Award but this is dependent upon the number of individual churches registered under this programme.

The Education Team will develop greater alignment between churches and church schools. The Board will also try and address the recruitment crisis in foundation church school governance, along with a need to develop ex-officio governance, and strengthen our recognition of young people as leaders of today not just tomorrow. The team also aim to develop diversity in governance and church school leadership.

TRUSTEES' STATEMENT

These summarised financial statements are a summary of information extracted from the statutory financial statements. They may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity.

For further information, the statutory financial statements should be consulted.

The full annual accounts were approved on 2 May 2024

These accounts were audited by BHP LLP, Chartered Accountants, who gave an unqualified audit opinion, and the senior statutory auditor was Jane Marshall. The accounts will be delivered to Companies House and the Charity Commission.

Copies may be downloaded from the diocesan website or obtained free of charge on request in writing to the following address:

The Director of Finance,
Southwell & Nottingham Diocesan Board of Finance,
Jubilee House,
Westgate, Southwell,

Nottinghamshire,
NG25 0JH

SOUTHWELL AND NOTTINGHAM DIOCESAN BOARD OF FINANCE

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2023 £000	Restricted funds 2023 £000	Endowment funds 2023 £000	Total funds 2023 £000	Total funds 2022 £000
Income and endowments from:						
Donations	3	7,499	1,029	-	8,528	8,002
Charitable activities	4	814	34	-	848	812
Other activities	5	663	-	-	663	554
Investments	6	785	476	-	1,261	1,087
Other income	7	18	-	800	818	1,303
Total income and endowments		9,779	1,539	800	12,118	11,758
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	8	451	97	-	548	455
Charitable activities	9,10	9,645	1,206	-	10,851	10,261
Clergy pension scheme movement		-	-	-	-	(93)
Total expenditure		10,096	1,303	-	11,399	10,623
Net income before gains/(losses) on investments		(317)	236	800	719	1,135
Net gains/(losses) on investments	15,16	413	599	955	1,967	(283)
Net income		96	835	1,755	2,686	852
Transfers between funds	22	221	(221)	-	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		317	614	1,755	2,686	852
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension schemes	28	(56)	-	-	(56)	1,357
Non-controlling interest		-	-	-	-	(3)
Net movement in funds		261	614	1,755	2,630	2,206

SOUTHWELL AND NOTTINGHAM DIOCESAN BOARD OF FINANCE

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

		2023	As restated
	Note	£000	2022 £000
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	36,146	36,458
Investments	16	30,321	25,437
Investment property	15	21,154	20,833
		<u>87,621</u>	<u>82,728</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	18	1,024	2,551
Cash at bank and in hand		3,135	4,188
		<u>4,159</u>	<u>6,739</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	19	(1,790)	(2,104)
Net current assets		<u>2,369</u>	<u>4,635</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>89,990</u>	<u>87,363</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	20	(105)	(108)
Net assets excluding pension asset		<u>89,885</u>	<u>87,255</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme asset	28	-	-
Total net assets		<u><u>89,885</u></u>	<u><u>87,255</u></u>
Charity funds			
Endowment funds	22	64,592	62,837
Restricted funds	22	9,055	8,441
Unrestricted funds			
Designated funds	22	9,226	9,226
General funds	22	7,012	6,751
Total unrestricted funds	22	<u>16,238</u>	<u>15,977</u>
Total funds		<u><u>89,885</u></u>	<u><u>87,255</u></u>

DEANERY SHARE RECEIPTS 2023				
NEWARK ARCHDEACONRY				
MANSFIELD DEANERY				
PARISH	2023 ASK	2023 Paid	% Paid	SHORTFALL FUNDED BY DIOCESE
Blidworth, St. Mary of Purification	17,479	17,479	100.00	0
Clipstone, All Saints	13,632	4,000	29.34	9,632
Edwinstowe, St. Mary	34,752	34,752	100.00	0
Forest Town, St. Alban	38,940	28,000	71.91	10,940
Mansfield, St. Augustine and Pleasley Hill	10,572	424	4.01	10,148
Mansfield, St. John with St. Mary	61,621	61,621	100.00	0
Mansfield, St. Lawrence	51,096	33,000	64.58	18,096
Mansfield, St. Mark	42,636	24,136	56.61	18,500
Mansfield, St. Peter & St. Paul	88,818	88,818	100.00	0
Mansfield Woodhouse, St. Edmund King & Martyr	55,012	55,012	100.00	0
Mansfield Oak Tree Lane	0	0		0
Perlethorpe, St. John the Evangelist	8,496	3,900	45.90	4,596
Rainworth, St. Jude & St. Simon	24,632	24,632	100.00	0
Warsop, St. Peter & St. Paul	54,586	54,586	100.00	0

DEANERY SHARE RECEIPTS 2023				
NEWARK ARCHDEACONRY				
NEWSTEAD DEANERY				
PARISH	2023 ASK	2023 Paid	% Paid	SHORTFALL FUNDED BY DIOCESE
Annesely, All Saints	21,766	15,862	72.88	5,904
Newstead Village, St. Mary the Virgin	9,564	3,600	37.64	5,964
Brinsley with Underwood	33,377	33,377	100.00	0
Eastwood, St. Mary	62,601	62,601	100.00	0
Greasley, St. Mary	67,560	37,440	55.42	30,120
Hucknall, St. Mary Magdalene with St. John	69,696	59,280	85.06	10,416
Hucknall, St. Peter & St. Paul	41,616	27,000	64.88	14,616
Huthwaite, All Saints	46,471	46,471	100.00	0
Kirkby-in-Ashfield, St. Thomas	21,243	17,255	81.23	3,988
Kirkby-in-Ashfield, St. Wilfrid	38,160	24,000	62.89	14,160
Kirkby Woodhouse, St. John the Evangelist	10,021	10,021	100.00	0
Linby with Papplewick	65,868	65,868	100.00	0
New Cross Community Church	12,243	10,147	82.88	2,096
Ravenshead, St. Peter	111,707	111,707	100.00	0
Selston, St. Helen with Westwood, St. Mary	43,276	43,276	100.00	0
Skegby, St. Andrew	56,904	56,904	100.00	0
Sutton-in-Ashfield, St. Mary Magdalene	80,184	36,000	44.90	44,184
Teversal, St. Katherine	20,345	18,270	89.80	2,075

DEANERY SHARE RECEIPTS 2023				
NEWARK ARCHDEACONRY				
NEWARK AND SOUTHWELL DEANERY				
	2023		%	SHORTFALL
PARISH	ASK	2023 Paid	Paid	FUNDED BY
				DIOCESE
Averham, St. Michael and All Angels	5,997	5,997	100.00	0
Balderton, St. Giles	52,596	52,596	100.00	0
Barnby-in-the-Willows, All Saints	3,897	3,897	100.00	0
Besthorpe, Holy Trinity	1,313	1,313	100.00	0
Bilsthorpe, St. Margaret	9,408	3,150	33.48	6,258
Bleasby, St. Mary	11,902	11,902	100.00	0
Carlton-on-Trent, St. Mary	8,076	0	-	8,076
Caunton, St. Andrew	13,212	3,124	23.64	10,089
Coddington, All Saints	1,736	1,736	100.00	0
Collingham, St. John the Baptist & All Saints	25,397	25,397	100.00	0
Cromwell, St Giles	1,808	1,568	86.73	240
Eakring, St. Andrew	9,407	9,407	100.00	0
East Stoke, St. Oswald	3,120	3,120	100.00	0
Edingley, St. Giles	8,358	8,358	100.00	0
Egmanton, Our Lady of Egmanton	6,984	1,500	21.48	5,484
Elston, All Saints	14,544	14,544	100.00	0
Farndon, St. Peter	27,733	27,733	100.00	0
Farnsfield, St. Michael & All Angels	52,313	43,157	82.50	9,156
Girton & Spalford, St. Cecilia	1,320	1,116	84.55	204
Halam, St. Michael the Archangel	12,537	12,537	100.00	0
Halloughton, St. James	2,954	2,954	100.00	0
Harby with Swinethorpe, All Saints	3,169	3,169	100.00	0
Hawton, All Saints	7,359	7,359	100.00	0
Holme, St. Giles	3,169	2,537	80.06	632
Hoveringham, St. Michael	7,692	0	-	7,692
Kelham, St. Wilfrid	3,792	1,200	31.65	2,592
Kilvington, St. Mary	2,640	2,000	75.76	640
Kirklington with Hockerton, St. Swithin	5,027	5,027	100.00	0
Kirton, Holy Trinity	2,928	1,000	34.15	1,928
Kneesall, St. Bartholomew	4,078	2,046	50.17	2,032
Langford, St. Bartholomew	1,322	1,322	100.00	0
Laxton, St. Michael the Archangel	12,204	2,402	19.68	9,802
Maplebeck, St. Radegund	4,153	4,153	100.00	0
Markham Clinton, All Saints	5,736	1,419	24.74	4,317
Marnham, St. Wilfrid	3,000	1,000	33.33	2,000
Morton, St. Denis	11,878	11,878	100.00	0
Normanton-on-Trent, St. Matthew	6,000	0	-	6,000
North & South Clifton, St. George the Martyr	3,168	2,460	77.65	708
North Muskham, St. Wilfrid	14,490	14,490	100.00	0
Norwell, St. Laurence	13,212	5,000	37.84	8,212
Newark, Christ Church	32,979	32,979	100.00	0
Newark, St. Mary Magdalene and St. Leonard	89,692	68,536	76.41	21,156
Ollerton & Boughton	20,051	20,051	100.00	0
Ossington, Holy Rood	5,508	4,776	86.71	732
Rolleston, Holy Trinity	7,538	7,538	100.00	0
Shelton, St. Mary & All Saints	2,640	350	13.26	2,290
Sibthorpe, St. Peter	2,640	2,640	100.00	0
South Muskham, St. Wilfrid	7,824	2,000	25.56	5,824
Southwell, Holy Trinity	69,052	69,052	100.00	0
South Scarle, St. Helena	3,169	3,169	100.00	0
Staunton, St. Mary	3,126	3,126	100.00	0
Sutton-on-Trent, All Saints	13,211	5,801	43.91	7,410
Syerston, All Saints	2,640	2,640	100.00	0
Thorney with Wigsley, St. Helen	2,372	20	0.84	2,352
Thorpe, St. Laurence	1,397	1,397	100.00	0
Thurgarton, St. Peter	8,352	7,130	85.37	1,222
Tuxford, St. Nicholas	23,676	3,000	12.67	20,676
Upton, St. Peter & St. Paul	9,507	9,507	100.00	0
Walesby, St. Edmund	8,724	1,000	11.46	7,724
Wellow, St. Swithin	13,356	4,264	31.93	9,092
Weston, All Saints	8,940	3,800	42.51	5,140
Winkburn, St. John of Jerusalem	1,773	1,773	100.00	0
Winthorpe, All Saints	8,460	6,000	70.92	2,460

		2023	2023		Shortfall
		Ask	Paid	% Paid	funded by
DEANERY SHARE RECEIPTS 2023					Diocese
NOTTINGHAM ARCHDEACONRY					
WEST BINGHAM		£	£	%	£
25A453	A453 Churches of South Nottinghamshire	84,156	64,457	77	19,700
25CLMY	Clifton, St. Mary and Holy Trinity	33,663	33,663	100	0
25COST	Costock, St. Giles	11,448	11,448	100	0
25EDWA	Edwalton, Holy Rood	67,278	60,642	90	6,636
25ETLK	East Leake, St. Mary	93,620	88,902	95	4,718
25GAMS	Gamston and Bridgford, St. Luke	158,898	134,646	85	24,252
25HOLM	Holme Pierrepont, St. Edmund	6,600	4,500	68	2,100
25LADY	Lady Bay, All Hallows	29,640	29,640	100	0
25NORM	Normanton-on-Soar, St. James	17,112	15,000	88	2,112
25REMP	Rempstone, All Saints	11,700	9,816	84	1,884
25RUDD	Ruddington, St. Peter	75,396	65,010	86	10,386
25STAN	Stanford-on-Soar, St. John the Baptist	4,524	4,000	88	524
25SUTT	Sutton Bonington, St. Anne and St. Michael	10,536	7,980	76	2,556
25WILP	Wilford Hill, St. Paul	81,531	77,879	96	3,652
25WILW	Wilford, St. Wilfrid	68,794	68,794	100	0
25WTBR	West Bridgford, St. Giles	125,832	119,000	95	6,832
25WTLK	West Leake, St. Helena	7,920	7,032	89	888

The following parishes made late payments towards their 2023 share ask, that are not reflected in the figures above:

£6,000 Nottingham, St Peter and All Saints (Nottingham South Deanery)
£3,000 Normanton-on-Trent, St Matthew (Newark & Southwell Deanery)

The following payments were received from Bishop's Mission Orders (BMOs):

£24,500 Potting Shed Church
£76,000 Trinity Church Nottingham



The Southwell & Nottingham Diocesan Synod and Board of Finance. A charitable company limited by guarantee: Company No 34165 England, Charity No 249359