

MISSIONAL GRANTS OVERVIEW

3 MAY 2022

Under our new grants policy, district funding is available to support Transforming Mission and Properties Fit For Mission projects.



To keep this funding support closely aligned to our overall strategy and our ongoing learning from its implementation, grant applications are now assessed directly by the Leading Team. Full details of our scheme and what we have said we will prioritise are available at <https://www.sheffieldmethodist.org/what-we-do/finance-fundraising.html>

For consideration at this meeting we will have a final application from The Foundry/ Victoria Hall, plus two initial enquires.

VICTORIA HALL METHODIST CHURCH, SHEFFIELD – FLEXIBLE SEATING – FINAL APPLICATION

The Foundry (Methodist controlled charity responsible for managing the Victoria Hall building) are planning to remove the fixed cinema seating in the main hall/ worship space, and make necessary renovations to the floor. This will benefit: the church in the more flexible informal worship they are developing, community activities, and allow significantly more income to be generated from the space. It is one step in a planned programme of improvement to ensure the long term financial sustainability of the building as a base for mission. Existing seating is being advertised for sale, as recommended at last DLT.

I am clarifying the current reserves position, as the wording in the application is not entirely clear. In essence I understand the total reserves available are considerably less than cash currently held due to a loan from the circuit which is to be repaid.

Total project cost c£70k, request for £6,900 district funding.

MANOR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY PROJECT – OUTREACH WORKER – INITIAL ENQUIRY

This ecumenical project based in the economically deprived Manor estate in Sheffield has employed a CRCW (URC equivalent of a deacon) for the past eight years, during which time the project has become more deeply embedded within the local community and built strong links with local organisations. With the post holder moving on to a new role, the ecumenical trustee team are seeking to appoint a new worker. Initially for three years, this new role will include greater focus on creating Christian community alongside community development work.

This application has been delayed from last DLT when it was due to have been presented. In the meantime the role focus has been sharpened in response to feedback sought.

Total project cost c£40k pa for three years, expected request for £20k district funding.

PEAK WESLEYAN WAY – PROPERTY AND WORKER – INITIAL ENQUIRY

Peak Circuit are looking to open up several of their chapels as overnight resting points on a new pilgrimage trial. The hope is that this pilgrimage would be in itself missional, provide a new focus for outreach to village residents and contribute to financial sustainability of the circuit. The CLT are consulting extensively with Neil, Tom and Lorraine in developing this far reaching proposal. Exact locations to be included and total start up costs are still being finalised but district support, if awarded, would be important in securing other grants over the coming months.