

MISSIONAL GRANTS OVERVIEW

6 JULY 2022

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

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 have final applications from M CCP, plus an initial enquiry from Sheffield Circuit.



If you think of in advance of the meeting of questions that you would like to ask about these, please pass on to Neil Harland so that we can use our time together as efficiently as possible.

MANOR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY PROJECT – COMMUNITY COHESION AND OUTREACH WORKER – FULL APPLICATION

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 build on these foundations, but include greater focus on creating new Christian community alongside neighbourhood development work and managing the Temple Park Centre. The application contains a large volume of appendices, but the most important information is on the first three pages. A few points to note from my discussions with Rev Debora Marschner subsequent to submission of this paperwork:

- The trustees intend to continue the role beyond the three year funding proposed, with lettings income from the Temple Park Centre expected to increase and contribute up to £15k pa. They hope also to pursue a wider range of grant funders, once the pressing need to avoid an extended gap between roles post pandemic has been managed, reducing input from ecumenical supporters. This may prove challenging, but they do have some options.
- Circuit support for the next three years has been confirmed.
- Changes may need to be made to the CIO constitution to allow employment of a role with disciple-growing elements. I don't think this will be an insurmountable challenge.
- Elements of the theory of change (appendix 3) will be updated in consultation with the new worker when appointed. In particular the centre of gravity for work with children and families is shifting from St Swithin's church towards Temple Park Centre, and the proposed caretaker/manager post is superseded within this new role.

The request is for between £15,348 and £23,023, depending how much other denominations contribute. Our maximum usual grant is £20,000, so I suggest if we chose to support we offer up to £20,000 only.

SHEFFIELD CIRCUIT - MENTAL HEALTH CO-ORDINATOR – INITIAL ENQUIRY

The team appointed by Sheffield CLT have focussed a wide mental health brief down to a tighter three year scope of providing training to significant numbers of people across the circuit, and then building from this training to support churches in creating new or adapting existing activities to provide mental health informed activities and groups. It builds off existing expertise and passion for

this topic within the circuit. The key challenge will be whether large numbers of people want to engage with the training, but preliminary investigations indicate that this is achievable if effort is made to explain it well and deliver it flexibly.

Note also the question about whether other circuits might want to be part of this. For circuits with smaller numbers seeking training for MHFA for adults, this can also be arranged through the Learning Network.

The circuit hope to use district funding to leverage a substantial grant from the new Benefact “Brighter Lives” programme.