

Parish Share In The Deanery Of Reading.

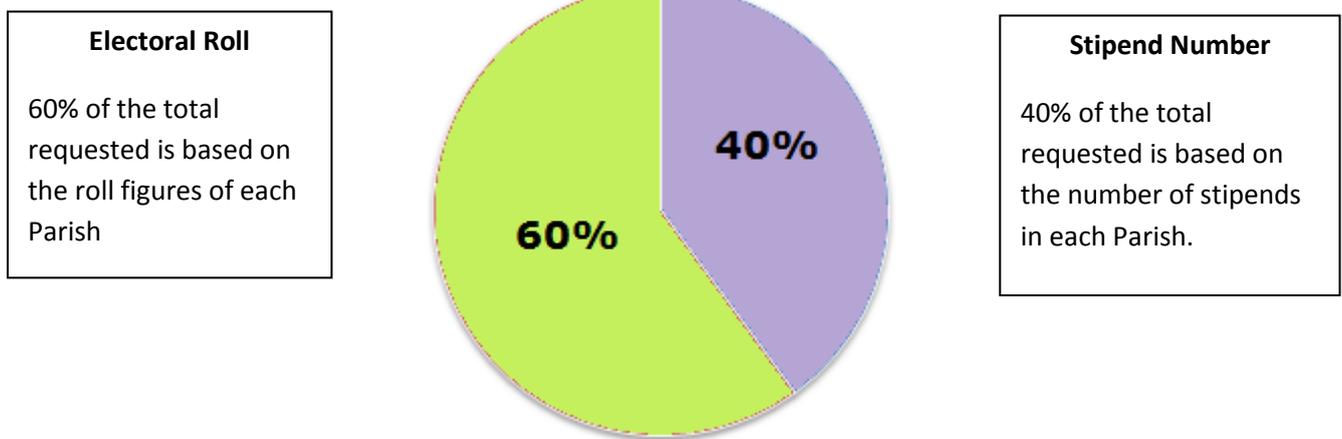
What is the Parish Share?

Parish Share is a contribution from each Parish towards the running costs of the Diocese and in particular towards Parochial Costs. The Reading Deanery pays about 98% of cost of its clergy.

How Is the Share Allocated Between The Parishes

In 2009, the Reading Deanery was asked for a Parish Share of £1,235K.

Each Deanery can independently determine the way that they allocate the Share payments between their Parishes. Currently, the Reading Deanery uses a formula based on the number of Stipend in a Parish and the electoral roll of the Parish.



Generally speaking, each parish contributes the following towards the parish share

$$\left(\left(\frac{\text{Parish Roll Number}}{\text{Total Roll of Deanery}} \times 0.6 \right) + \left(\frac{\text{Number of Stipend in Parish}}{\text{Total Stipends in Deanery}} \times 0.4 \right) \right) \times \text{Total Share Requested}$$

However there are a few adjustments

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Urban Priority Areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Parishes must be classified as Urban Prioities with at least 50% of the roll members living in the Parish. There are 3 such Parishes and they receive a 50% reduction |
| Growing Churches | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To benefit churches which are growing, the Electoral Roll is calculated as the average over the past 4 years. |
| Churches in Special Need | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a situation arises where by an unaviodable large payment is required, e.g. for a roof which required repairing, then an adjustent is made to help the church over the period of difficulty. |
| Capped Increase | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increases are capped at 10% and decreases at 0% i.e. no Parish is asked for less than the previous year. |

Is This the Best System?

Other Deaneries use a church attendance and the wealth of a church as part of their formula. Others determine the split by haggling!! All systems have problems though.

The current formula used by Reading Deanery can be a problem for churches with a large roll figure.

Why Have Some Parishes Had Larger Increases Than Others In The Past Few Years?

The average share increase over the past few years has been 2.5%. However, some churches have faced considerable larger increases while others have had no increase.

This is because prior to 2002 the 5 largest Parishes faces a 25% uplift. This was removed but it has taken a few years for things to work their way through the system.

What Would Happen If The Deanery Does Not Pay The Full Amount Requested?

If Diocese don't get Deanery Share, then have to cut costs – i.e. stipend. To prevent this situation, churches must pay as the Deanery does not have reserves to pay for any shortfall.

How Should Churches Prioritise Their Expenditure?

This is how Reading Deanery suggest that churches should prioritise their expenditure.

Essential maintenance

- Maintenance on the church and buildings which has to be paid.

Expenses

- It is right that all expenses are paid.

Utilities

- Gas, electric bills etc

Parish Share

- This pays for the Clergy

Other Expenses

- There should be no outward giving if the Parish Share cannot be paid.

Can The Deanery Get A Rebate From The Diocese?

The Deanery can get a 1% rebate if 20% of the share has been paid to the Diocese by the end of March and 50% has been paid by the end of June.

There Deanery can get a further 1% rebase is all the Share has been paid by the end of November.

There is a scheme allowing for Parishes to pay their Share by standing order in 10 equal payments from February to November,

Reading Deanery has not managed to obtain a rebate over the past years although many Deaneries do.