

ALDHELM MISSION FUND GROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Overview

The Aldhelm Mission Fund exists to provide funds for new mission-related initiatives, including posts, being carried out in parishes, schools or the wider community. It is a designated fund of the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Finance. The income comes from a variety of sources and is allocated to the Fund by the Bishop's Council / Diocesan Board of Finance Executive. The Fund is invested and the money available for grants will normally be the income from the investments.

The Aldhelm Mission Fund is administered by The Aldhelm Mission Fund Group under the authority of the Bishop's Council.

2. Purpose

To find new projects and new expressions of Church.

To encourage and resource creative thinking and risk taking.

To provide resources to enable people to move from their places of safety and try new things in the spirit of St Aldhelm.

3. Responsibilities

1. Apportion income from the Aldhelm Mission Fund for work in projects, including mission posts, throughout the Diocese of Salisbury.
2. Monitor and account (on behalf of the Bishop's Council) for how the money apportioned is used and receive reports from projects.
3. Put forward to the Bishop's Council ideas and strategies for ensuring that the fund is used to the best effect and ensure that any new projects or posts created take work forward following the priorities set out in the Diocesan vision and strategy.
4. Monitor and receive assurance on **compliance with governing policies, relevant legislation and regulations**
5. Engage with **equality, diversity and inclusion** in the Group's membership and governance, as set out in 'Lament to Action' and the Charity Governance Code

Money may be used to fund or part-fund mission-related projects, including match-funding posts, that involve new initiatives, that is work that is not happening now, and in particular work which connects the church to the wider community for the purpose of proclaiming the gospel.

The money is primarily for initiating projects. The Aldhelm Mission Fund Group will ensure that the projects have built into them strategies to sustain them into the longer term, or appropriate exit strategies for the project.

Application process and criteria are listed at Annex A.

ANNEX A – PROCESS AND CRITERIA

Process

1. It is open to any one individual or group of people within the Diocese of Salisbury to make application to the Fund. Normally it will be expected that applications will have the support of the local parish and deanery.
2. Small grants of up to £500 are available for small one-off projects, to buy equipment for seed corn funding of longer term projects.
3. For larger projects, initial enquiries about the nature of a project should be made to the appropriate Archdeacon or Bishop and it is advisable to have preliminary conversations at an early stage before making a formal application. Enquiries about the application process and general information about the Fund should be made to the Secretary to the Aldhelm Mission Fund Group.
4. An application form must be completed with details including the nature of the project, the specific way in which it will connect with the community and the form of proclamation of the Gospel involved, an exit strategy and ideally mention of the ecumenical dimension and any partnership funding streams.
5. The application will be considered by the Aldhelm Mission Fund Group and a decision on a grant will be made.
6. Normally funds will be granted annually and a report will be required each year to the Group. The Group may nominate one of its number to act as a liaison person with a particular project.
7. Dates of meetings of the Group and closing dates for applications will be publicised annually by the Secretary.

Criteria

1. Applications must be sponsored by a parish or deanery within the Diocese of Salisbury.
2. The work must be new, either in a new area, new work or a new phase of work.
3. There must be a focus on outreach and service to the wider community.
4. There must be a vision and an indication of how the work will be sustained.
5. There must be some measurable outcomes for the project.
6. There must be evidence of working with partners e.g. ecumenical, school and community and, wherever possible, funds from other sources will have been sought.
7. There must be a project group to oversee the project.