

## Who can we help?

We can support licensed clergy and licensed lay workers, together with their dependents (generally those living within their household).

We are also able to help retired clergy and their spouses, and also surviving spouses following the death of their ordained partner.

The terms of the endowment unfortunately do not extend to Readers, or other lay ministers.



## How quickly can we assist?

The trustees meet several times each year to consider grant applications. We are also generally able to respond to time-sensitive requests within 14 days. In cases of greater urgency please contact the clerk or your Archdeacon and we will do our best to accelerate a decision.

For larger grants, particularly related to the relief of debt and/or where further details may be required, we may suggest that a trustee will speak to you directly.

The York Diocesan Ministers' Relief (2009) Fund (charity registration number 1134193) seeks to relieve need, hardship and distress for clergy persons or licensed lay workers who serve or reside (or have served or resided) in the Diocese of York, and their dependent relatives or those who have acted as housekeepers.

The Fund receives its income from an endowment fund which is managed by a group of Trustees which includes the Archdeacons, the Diocesan Secretary and three others appointed with the approval of the Diocesan Board of Finance.

The York Diocesan Ministers' Relief (2009) Fund (charity registration number 1134193)  
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# Ministers' Relief Fund



SUPPORTING CLERGY IN THE  
DIOCESE OF YORK



Don't struggle on, we're here to help



## Don't let money worries affect your ministry...

The Ministers Relief Fund (MRF) gives grants to relieve financial need, hardship or distress amongst serving and retired clergy and their dependents. It doesn't matter why this has come about, whether it's through illness, accident, or if problems have to build up over a longer period.

Whether it is an unexpectedly large repair bill, help with the cost of getting to hospital appointments or the build-up of credit card debt that is keeping you awake at night, MRF is here to support you in your ministry. It is managed entirely confidentially and the income comes from an endowment fund which is managed independently.

Unfortunately, the Fund isn't able to help with on-going costs (e.g. school, medical/care fees or utility bills), but it may be able to assist with short term changes in circumstances or the additional one off costs that inevitably arise such as specialist health care equipment, replacing critical domestic appliances or keeping a vehicle on the road after an unexpected and expensive MOT related repair.

## How to apply for assistance

To apply for a grant, you can download a form from the Diocesan Website (just search for MRF) ,or obtain one from Kathryn Rose (Clerk to the Trustees).

You can contact Kathryn at the Diocesan Office on 01904 699500 or email: via [kathryn.rose@yorkdiocese.org](mailto:kathryn.rose@yorkdiocese.org).

Any application or call will be treated with complete confidence.

Please note that the Ministers Relief Fund operates independently from Diocesan Board of Finance, but seeks to support all those engaged in ordained ministry within the Diocese of York.

If you would like to discuss your application, the clerk would be happy to arrange for an initial conversation with one of the lay trustees.

In cases where there are real financial challenges in the clergy household, the trustees may invite applicants to have a conversation with one of their lay members to try to put together the most appropriate package of support.



## Who else can help?

On occasions, where they are not able to offer direct financial assistance, the trustees may be able to signpost applicants to other charities with more applicable objects,

Where support is provided towards the relief of debt, the trustees will expect applicants to seek additional advice to try to reduce the likelihood of future difficulties.

It is always helpful to draw up a budget and check to see if there are any insurance policies on which a claim might be made. Preparing a realistic budget is made easier by using a pro forma budget sheet rather than attempting to make your own list of income and expenditure. An excellent example of a budget sheet can be found at The Money Charity. This website also offers guidelines to help with the process of preparing a budget (<https://budgetbuilder.themoneycharity.org.uk/>).

Another excellent resource that provides helpful information is the Money Helper website (<https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/>).

If you just feel that you need specialist and confidential support for debt issues, you can contact Community Money Advice or Christians Against Poverty (CAP), both of which operate via a network of churches, many of which are unconnected to the Church of England.