



Keeping you connected

Newsletter

13 June 2025

From the Executive Director

A message from Anna Pitt

Dear colleagues and friends,

We started this week with a briefing from The Church Commissioners team on the outcomes of the TFWG decisions on funding for the next triennium. Whilst there is a budgeted increase in clergy stipends, there is concern that the differentials between cathedral and non-cathedral clergy will be lost, potentially meaning residentiary canons' stipends will fall below that of other stipendiary priests. We are assured that the team is looking into this discrepancy.

The CSF funding pot is set to increase from £7.5million in the last triennium to £11.4million in the coming triennium. However, in the last triennium there was carry over of underspend from the previous triennium, and an additional pot of £10 million to support with the implementation of the Cathedral Measure, so the reality is that this may not feel like an increase. A further reality is that £11.4 split over the next three years, and split 42 ways (notionally) will not represent the support needed for financial security and stability for cathedrals. We advocated, alongside CAFA and the College of Deans for a deeper understanding by the Commissioners of both the challenges faced by our sector, and the tremendous impact they have in their communities, in the flourishing of the Christian faith, and as net contributors to the public impression of the Church of England nationally. The figures from the TFWG feel disappointing, and don't reflect the request that we know was submitted by the Bishoprics and Cathedrals staff team. [*A note that there are separate pots for Safeguarding and Net Zero which we expect Cathedrals will be able to access, though we don't have details yet*].

At this stage, you have my commitment that the AEC will continue to engage in conversations about the sector-wide funding model. You also have a commitment from me to work alongside the Bishoprics and Cathedrals team and trustees to be an active partner in ensuring that the CSF funding is used as effectively and beneficially as possible. We will

also explore other national funding options, and possibilities for the AEC to conduit resources and funding to the sector.

Warm wishes,

Anna Pitt

Interim Executive Director, Association of English Cathedrals

News from Our Project Boards

This Week's Highlights

Communications Support Project

Volunteer of the Year award - Thought you'd be interested in this lovely piece in the Church Times last week - please do share, as appropriate in your context.

<https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2025/13-june/news/uk/supper-club-and-seamstress-recognised-in-new-cathedral-volunteers-rewards>

This week we shared a reel featuring and naming every one of the nominated volunteers for the 2025 awards - <https://www.englishcathedrals.co.uk/latest-news/the-nominees-newgate-cathedral-volunteer-of-the-year-awards/>

Vacancies and Appointments

- Bradford Cathedral are looking to appoint a Cathedral Safeguarding Officer:
<https://www.cofepathways.org/members/modules/job/detail.php?record=8757>
- Chichester Cathedral have two verger vacancies (on full time, one part time):
<https://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk/about-us/job-vacancies/joining-our-vergers-team>

Don't forget, all the job descriptions you share with us are uploaded to the CAFA website and can be accessed here: <https://cathedralcafa.org/request-login/>

Training & Conference Opportunities

Upcoming events and learning opportunities:

- Charity Tax Group run a number of events for members, information can be found here:
<https://www.charitytaxgroup.org.uk/events-2/>

- The CST (Community Safety Trust) run a number of online security related events and training sessions. Details can be found here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/safe-by-cst-45181037783> Of particular interest may be the even on 8th July - A Practical Walk through of Martyn's Law.

We look forward to seeing you at the **AEC AGM on 17th June in London**. More information to follow, together with information on proxy voting arrangements.

Interesting Reports & Information

- I understand a number of you have worked with Hennessy Brown Music in the past. They have some new information on their website relating to a tour by The Hanover Band planned for 2026 and 2027. You can find more information and contact details: <https://www.hennesseybrownmusic.com/about-us> and this may be worth forwarding to your music colleagues.
 - Bethany Hodgkinson is completing an MA in Library and Archive Studies at the University of Manchester and embarking on her dissertation, which focuses on how cathedrals utilise their archives to engage the public through exhibitions. She is seeking input from professionals involved in the use of cathedral archives, particularly those with experience working in the archive, curating exhibitions, or public engagement activities in the context of the cathedral. She would be very grateful if you would consider contributing to the research by completing a short survey (linked below). She will be gathering responses until the end of June. Survey link: https://www.qualtrics.manchester.ac.uk/jfe/form/SV_7NE3qCySff39oXk
 - The National **Manuscript Conservation Trust** give grants for conservation of manuscripts. The deadline for applications is 1st October - see [our website for guidance and an application form](#)
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Don't Forget...

- The CAFA website is an excellent portal for the storage of bespoke and template policies, job descriptions and plans. Any number of colleagues from your cathedral can register for free: <https://cathedralcafa.org/request-login/>

Stay Connected

Have news to share in next week's edition? Let us know by Wednesday at midday.

Contact: Anna Pitt – anna.pitt@englishcathedrals.co.uk

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