



DIOCESAN FINANCE BOARD REPORT TO DIOCESAN STANDING COMMITTEE



12 March 2016

The Diocesan Finance Board is charged with the responsibility of receiving, expending and controlling of funds entrusted to it by the Diocese. The issues of governance, compliance, sustainability and strategy fall within its areas of responsibility. The Diocesan Finance Board is chaired by the Bishop and members are mainly the archdeacons, two lay representatives, two members appointed by the Bishop and the diocesan staff.

A. Achievements

1. Governance and Compliance

1.1.1 Meetings

The Diocesan Finance Board members held four meetings since the DSC held in March 2015. The first meeting was held in June 2015, focusing on 2016 budget processes. The second meeting was held in July 2015 where the first budget presentation was done. The third meeting was in November to finalise the budget for recommendation for approval to DSC in November 2015. The fourth meeting on the 5th March 2016.

1.1.2 Budgets

The diocese operate from a budget and each year we have managed to formulate one. The 2016 budget was tabled and approved at the last DSC meeting in November 2015.

1.1.3 External Audit 2015 Report and Audited Financial Statements

The diocese is up to date with external audits. The 2015 audit is currently underway and the report and financial statements will be issued in due course.

1.1.4 Internal Audit

During 2015 we have seen the establishment of internal audit and some valuable work has been carried out already.

2. Sustainability

The main source of revenue is pledge income and this has steadily grown as illustrated below:

	2012	2013	2014	2015
Pledge Income	R3 477 976	R3 835 862	R4 245 981	4 514 352
Other Income	R1 270 436	R1 825 652	R2 086 131	R2 156 633

3. Strategic Planning

The diocese's vision as articulated in 2013 identified the following five priority areas :

- Multiplication of churches and all the implications
- Youth Discipleship – starting with the Youth Discipleship Programme (how do we involve our youth in our activities and programmes)
- Community development (using church land and property to eradicate poverty)
- Training of clergy and leaders
- Clergy retention (How do we attract clergy to the Diocese?)
 - Care for clergy – spiritual and material

DFB agreed that these priorities are to do with mission and ministry and must become part of the ongoing agenda of Chapter, Archdeacons' Fellowship, Training for Ministries, Development etc

B. Challenges

1 Performance Appraisals for clergy

Though a performance management system was developed, this has not been implemented yet. The starting point I guess would be to workshop the clergy and get a buy in so that they see it as a motivation is to help and encourage them to identify areas where they need support, help or training. It can also be used as a development programme for a new priest.

2 Submission of financial returns by parishes

Some parishes are not submitting the quarterly and annual financial returns to the diocese and in turn chapelries to the parishes.

3 Lack of independent verifiers for parishes

There is a huge need independent verifiers for in the diocese. Ideally the independent verifier for a parish should be someone not from that parish and should be someone with an accounting background.