

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, OMBERSLEY

CHARITABLE GIVING POLICY

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) and the congregation of St Andrew's, Ombersley Parish Church are committed to charitable giving, of no less than 10%, from the regular income received through planned giving and the weekly collection as part of the mission of the church. The PCC is accountable for all money raised.

The purpose of the policy:

To ensure that the church financially supports a number of charities directly from general funds

To develop a meaningful relationship with those charities

To reserve a small proportion in order to be able to respond to needs arising.

At St Andrew's our charity giving will:

Consider spiritual as well as material needs, delivering mission and aid

Link with our broader church life, such as worship

Support the local community, Ombersley, Droitwich, Worcestershire

Make a difference, focusing where our giving can have greatest impact.

Three charities will be supported for 3 years on a rolling basis. Each year one charity will be replaced. The PCC will decide a short list for the replacement charity and this shortlist is put forward for all on the church electoral roll to elect. The final decision will be made at the PCC meeting held in or nearest to November.

Once a charity has been supported for 3 years it will not be eligible for further support for 3 years.

Charities will be informed of the support and be invited to provide literature/spokespersons/talks about the work.

A standing order will be set up to provide a monthly payment of 50/60% of the estimated full amount, with the balance to be paid at the end of the financial year. Charities should be clear that this is a commitment, but that the final amount will be at the discretion of the church.

Throughout the year the church is also involved in various collections that result in donations being given to a range of charities:

Christmas – bucket collection + carol singing to **Crisis at Christmas**

Harvest – loose collection to **Farm Africa** and gifts of food to **Maggs Day Centre**

Fete – 10% of takings shared between local charities

Concerts/events etc – a percentage of takings given to charities as decided by participants

Response to local/national appeals

Use of building free to Ombersley and Hawford Schools for carol services

Also – the church is the 'vehicle' for collections such as the Royal British Legion **Poppy Appeal** and **Christian Aid** – however these collections do not go through the church accounts.

Collections at funerals for charities chosen by the family are managed by the funeral directors.

Individually people have collection boxes for the **Children's Society** and this is, in some years, supplemented by a Christingle service.

The congregation and the wider community will be regularly informed of our giving – through notices, displays, the Sunday Link sheet and through the parish magazine.
There will be a summary report provided at the Annual General Meeting of the PCC.

The person responsible for ensuring that this policy is carried out is Fiona Davies

Signed:..... (Responsible person)

Signed:(Treasurer)

Signed:(Lay chair/priest in charge)