Parochial Fees 2013 Onwards

Significant legal changes were made effective 1 January 2013 to Parochial Fees for weddings and funerals.

From that date:
- No element of the statutory fee belongs to the officiant, (with the exception of a few incumbents who are continuing to retain fees).
- the fees belong in part to the PCC and in part to the Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF).
- Although the fees legally set have increased substantially, there is now a restriction on charging for "extras".
- The fees payable for funeral services taking place at a crematorium or cemetery now
- include an element payable to the PCC.
- Chelmsford DBF have extended the *offer* of fees for officiating at a wedding or funeral to include all ministers not in receipt of a stipend. of the DBF fee is *offered* to SSMs, retired SSMs with PTO, Clergy with House for Duty, Readers, and other properly authorised ministers. In all cases the remaining $^1/_3$ needs to be remitted to the DBF monthly.
- Fees will continue to be collected by the PCC or incumbent and passed on to the DBF or other recipients. It is recommended that PCCs act as local agents rather than the incumbent. The keeping of proper records for audit purposes is vital.
- The DBF element of the fees collected does not belong to the incumbent, with the exceptions noted above, or the PCC and should be remitted monthly to the DBF.
- The receiving of fees by House for Duty Clergy, SSMs and Readers **will not** constitute a contract of employment between the individual and the DBF. Recipients of fees are responsible for declaring this income to the Inland Revenue and paying any tax due.
- PCCs will continue to receive a Fee Credit against Parish Share based on 50% of the fees received by the DBF after any payments to officiating ministers.

Further Information:

This guidance and the revised fees worksheets are available on the Diocesan website under the For Parishes/Fees section. www.chelmsford.anglican.org/parish-finance/fees.